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Killed, 40 Injured When Gandhi Foes Clash With Police

MADRAS, India, Oct. 30 (Reuters).—Two persons were killed and at least 40 injured when police opened fire today to disperse a demonstration against former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Imitates Riot for Amnesty Barcelona

Four Jail Uprising
by Criminals

BARCELONA, Oct. 30 (UPI).—Police firing smoke bombs and rubber bullets put down a new riot by criminals who want to be amnestied.

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OUR CLASSIFIED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

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THIEF STOPPED—An unidentified St. Louis woman first wrestles (left) with a purse snatcher, then (right) bites his wrist in an attempt to drive him off. The UPI photo-



lographer who took the photo in a parking lot said the woman left in her car before he could ask her name. Attacker fled, and police haven't received a complaint.

Alleged Blackmail Bid Is Protested U.S. Says KGB Intimidated Envoy

By Dan Fisher
MOSCOW, Oct. 30.—The U.S. Embassy here has delivered an unusually strong protest to the Soviet Foreign Ministry over an alleged attempt to blackmail a senior U.S. diplomat into working for the KGB, an embassy spokesman said yesterday.

Health Accord Finally Reached

Psychiatric Charges Divide U.S.-Soviet Talks

By Bernard Gwertzman
WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (NYT).—A sharp dispute between Soviet and U.S. officials over charges that Moscow had used psychiatry to suppress political dissidents threatened to disrupt the official health research agreement between the two countries last week.

Ten Reportedly Executed in China

ROME, Oct. 30 (UPI).—Ten persons have been executed in China for common crimes, the Italian news agency ANSA reported yesterday from Peking.

'Banning Law' Regarded as Most Perverse Curb on Apartheid Foes

By Jack Foisie

JOHANNESBURG, Oct. 30.—Of the five South African laws under which white or black citizens can be held without charge—and held indefinitely without trial—the one known as "the banning law" seems the most perverse.



Donald Woods, AP.



Beyers Naude, AP.

Caransa Family Urges Abductors To Make Contact

By Paul Holmann

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 30 (NYT).—The family of Maurits Caransa, the multimillionaire businessman who was kidnapped in the center of Amsterdam early Friday morning, publicly appealed today to his abductors to establish contact with his relatives.

[The appeal was issued as an anonymous telephone caller claiming to speak for the kidnappers demanded freedom for alleged terrorist Knut Folkerts, all South Moluccans held in Dutch jails and Japanese Red Army member Kozo Okamoto, who is held in Israel, LPI reported. The editor of De Telegraaf, a newspaper, quoted the caller as saying that unless the demands were met "we will tell you where you can find Caransa's body." Both the editor and a police spokesman said they were not inclined to take the call seriously.]

Plane Seized In Vietnam; 2 Are Killed

Singapore Holds Four in Hijacking

SINGAPORE, Oct. 30 (AP).—Four armed Vietnamese men who killed two crewmen aboard a Vietnamese airliner and forced it to land in Singapore were being interrogated by police today, the Home Affairs Ministry said.

The Vietnamese DC-3 returned to Ho Chi Minh City this morning with 31 passengers, 3 crew members and the victims. An injured crewman and a passenger who refused to go back remained in Singapore, the ministry said.

The ministry gave no details about the hijackers' motives or identities. They surrendered peacefully, officials said.

The government said that they would "be dealt with in accordance with international law and conventions governing such matters."

The hijackers killed the radio operator and flight engineer and seriously wounded a steward.

The government said that the passenger who refused to return was a 26-year-old bachelor who asked to stay until he could find another place to go. "He was not pressed to leave and inquiries will be made to ascertain where he wants to go," the ministry said.

Guns, Knives
The government said that one hijacker had a .38-caliber revolver and the others had knives.

The pilot said that he heard shots 15 minutes after takeoff yesterday morning from Ho Chi Minh City for Phu Quoc Island.

The two crewmen had been slain. The plane then flew to Thailand but was not allowed to stay, a Thai military spokesman said that "confusion and trouble" might have resulted between Vietnam and Thailand if the Thai government had granted asylum to the four. The Thais provided food, water and fuel and the plane left more than two hours later.

Thailand and Vietnam have had generally poor relations since the Communist victory in southern Vietnam in 1975, but the military leaders who staged a coup in Bangkok on Oct. 20 have said that they would try to improve relations with the Hanoi government.

Singapore has no diplomatic relations with Vietnam but observers here have suggested that the government would not want to offend Hanoi by granting asylum to hijackers who had killed.

The government said that on leaving Thailand the plane was ordered to proceed to any airport in Malaysia but that the destination was changed to Singapore.

Since the Communist victory, thousands of Vietnamese refugees who came to Singapore in boats have been helped with food and fuel to leave this tiny island. Only about 100 fishing families were allowed to settle here, mainly to boost the rapidly declining fishing community.

Arabs Tighten Up Lebanon Security

BEIRUT, Oct. 30 (Reuters).—A strong clampdown by Arab peacekeeping troops appears to have halted a recent wave of sectarian killings in Lebanon.

Soldiers of the Arab Deterrent Force set up cordon of roadblocks after at least 15 persons were killed in random kidnappings and shootings in the Beirut and Tybous regions this month.

An official communiqué said that an undisclosed number of persons had been arrested in the last two days on charges of murder, robbery and illegal possession of weapons.

22 Die in Pakistan

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Oct. 30 (UPI).—At least 22 persons were killed in flash floods 200 miles northwest of here, officials said here yesterday.

Dr. Naude is either revered or (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Sanctions Action Assailed

Opposition in South Africa Joins in Criticism of U.S.

JOHANNESBURG, Oct. 30 (Reuters).—Normally anti-government newspapers joined today in condemnation of proposed international sanctions against South Africa.

While Afrikaans-language newspapers maintained their general protest against the moves, the Sunday Times denounced "Washington's reckless meddling" and the Sunday Express, also English-language, came out against "extraneous foreign belligerence."

They were commenting on President Carter's pledge of support for a mandatory arms embargo against South Africa and moves at the United Nations to introduce further sanctions.

The comments followed an attack on the Carter administration yesterday by Colin Eglin, leader of the relatively liberal Progressive Federal party, which is likely to emerge as the main opposition after the Nov. 30 election.

Mr. Eglin said at a rally here: "Without facing up to the realities of the situation in South Africa, without giving mature consideration to the options for change, the Carter administration rushed in where angels would have feared to tread."

Mr. Eglin said Mr. Carter's administration gave the impression that it was "more concerned with

posturing than reform... more concerned with punishing South Africa than helping it to change."

This would make it more difficult for South Africa to find a peaceful solution to its race problems, Mr. Eglin said.

Defense Minister Pieter Botha, speaking last night, said of the proposed arms ban: "I don't know who they are trying to bluff. What we cannot make in South Africa we will still get from the world."

The Sunday Times said a finding by the UN Security Council that South Africa is a threat to world peace—a prerequisite for mandatory UN sanctions—"would be a cynical and grotesque perversion of the law and the facts."

While deploring injustices that riddled society here, the newspaper said it was utter nonsense to say these threatened international order.

"The latest U.S.-led campaign is but an extension of Mr. Carter's meddling obsession with South Africa and one in which the main Western democracies are in danger of being caught up."

Nuclear Fuel Ban

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (UPI).—The State Department is considering banning the shipment of all nuclear fuel to South Africa, in addition to a total ban on military equipment sales and other measures, officials said yesterday.

They said shipments of highly enriched nuclear fuel to South Africa already have been halted because of the possibility that weapons-grade fuel is being stockpiled. Officials said a sufficient quantity of the 90-per-cent pure uranium-235 could produce a nuclear explosive.

The officials said the question now being considered is whether the United States will give South Africa any of the nuclear fuel it has requested, including some low-grade uranium fuel rods which would be used in two large nuclear power plants being built by a French consortium.

At the UN, Andrew Young, the U.S. ambassador, said today he personally would favor an absolute ban on the shipment of nuclear fuel to South Africa but that it was too late for that to be a realistic possibility.

In an interview on ABC television "Issues and Answers," Mr. Young said South Africa had achieved "nuclear potential the extent of which we're not fully able to judge."

"To cut things off now would only encourage separate development of South Africa's own nuclear potential," he said.



JOINING IN THE FUN—Malawi President Hastings Banda falls into the proper beat with women dancers who display his portrait on their dresses. They were taking part in ceremonies at the new capital of Lilongwe.

Psychiatric Charges Divide U.S.-Soviet Talks

(Continued from Page 1)

threat to withdraw from one of the most publicized of the Soviet-U.S. agreements signed in 1972 at the height of détente, the State Department and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare were alerted.

Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher told the U.S. side to stand firm, a State Department official said, against any statement going along with the Soviet demand.

"To do less would make a mockery of our whole human rights concerns," a State Department official said. HEW gave similar support to the U.S. side.

Agreement Made

On Friday, however, an agreement was reached between the two sides. Dr. Yevgeniyev and Dr. Julius Richmond, assistant secretary of HEW for health, signed a memorandum of the session. The language on the schizophrenia field was deliberately bland. "Satisfactory progress was achieved and work should continue in this complex area," the statement said.

"Both sides expressed views as contained in the proceedings concerning negative nonscientific factors affecting the cooperation in this area, and agreed to continue as in the past on the basis of mutual respect and trust between the participating scientists of both countries," it concluded.

The other areas covered by the

joint committee included cancer, heart diseases, environmental health, arthritis, influenza, and other acute respiratory diseases. There is also a special project on artificial heart research. The

memorandum noted that at present there are 75 projects under way in all areas, and in the last five years, 500 U.S. scientists have visited the Soviet Union and 400 Russians have come here.

U.S. Protests Alleged Attempt By Russia to Blackmail Envoy

(Continued from Page 1)

embassy was not in a position to answer questions about the Soviet allegations concerning Mr. Warvariv. The diplomat has returned to UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

Among the "incriminating documents" that the KGB men produced in Mr. Warvariv's Tbilisi hotel room was a letter allegedly written by the diplomat's deceased father, purportedly implicating him in "Nazi collaborationist activities," according to the protest note. Mr. Warvariv "immediately identified the letter as a forgery," it added.

Diplomatic sources here speculated that the Russians are now trying to turn a botched espionage effort into a propaganda weapon to use against U.S. attacks on human rights violations here.

The Novosti article "looks like a sour grapes thing because of what they couldn't do to him in Tbilisi," a source said. The article contended that the fact that "a Nazi criminal" holds "a high post in the Carter administration and represents the United States in one of the most authoritative international organizations clearly shows how much those who capitalize politically on human rights care for them in reality."

Timing Odd

The timing of the article and the Foreign Ministry note to the U.S. Embassy was also curious. The note was not delivered until the day that the UNESCO conference ended and Mr. Warvariv had left the country. The Novosti article was distributed late Friday night.

According to the Novosti article, Mr. Warvariv was born in Styden and had lived in Rovno (both in the western Ukraine) during the Nazi occupation. Both cities were part of Poland until Hitler and Stalin divided that country in 1939 and they became part of the Soviet Union. After invading the Soviet Union, the Nazis occu-

and could not be reached for comment.

pled the area from 1941-1943. According to information available here, Mr. Warvariv would have been 17 when the occupation began. He will be 33 on Friday.

Los Angeles Times.

Police Slay Two in India

(Continued from Page 1)

her schedule of nationwide tours. She has campaigned extensively in northern India in recent weeks and plans to visit the neighboring southern states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka early next month.

When Mrs. Gandhi arrived in Madras after the demonstrations, she was greeted with "India Needs Indira" banners. But there were also wall posters saying "Murderer of Democracy, Go Back."

A Victim, She Says

Mrs. Gandhi, in her speeches in Tamil Nadu, has alleged she was the victim of political vendetta by the ruling Janata government. She was arrested and unconditionally released earlier this month on charges of corruption and misuse of power.

She said these charges would be proved false because she had not misused her powers for personal ends.

2 Accused Terrorists Arrested in Nicosia

NICOSIA, Oct. 30 (AP).—Two Greek Cypriots, one accused of murder and the other of planting explosives at a British military base on southern Cyprus, have been arrested, the police said yesterday.

The police said that the two were members of the outlawed EOKA-B terrorist organization, which emerged in Cypriot politics in 1970 with the declared purpose of uniting Cyprus with Greece. It was outlawed two years later.

Israel Is Likely To Free Bishop On Papal Plea

JERUSALEM, Oct. 30 (AP).—Israel has told the Vatican, that it probably will release the Most Rev. Hilarion Capucci, the Greek Catholic archbishop of Jerusalem, upon receipt of an expected appeal from Pope Paul VI, government sources said today.

Archbishop Capucci, the ranking clergyman of the 5,000-member Greek Catholic community in Israel, was sentenced to a 12-year prison term in 1974 for smuggling weapons to Arab guerrillas.

Officials confirmed that contacts with the Vatican on his release have been continuing since the Likud government took office four months ago. Sources said that Prime Minister Menachem Begin was likely to recommend that Archbishop Capucci be pardoned.

After the war, Mr. Caransa found junkyards of the first magnitude—the U.S. Army surplus depots. He bought and resold trucks and other equipment and soon had enough cash to go into real estate. Characteristically, his first investments were garages.

What came after was a successful venture in Amsterdam's real estate boom. He bought and sold, developed and controlled revenue-producing property—hotels, motels, garages, shopping centers, office buildings and residential complexes.

Marcos Promises Election in May For an Assembly

MANILA, Oct. 30 (Reuters).—President Ferdinand Marcos said today that he would hold elections for a new legislative body by May of next year.

The country's last congress was abolished in 1972 when Mr. Marcos imposed martial law.

President Marcos made the announcement at the end of a two-day session of the Legislative Advisory Council, which he appointed. The council has called for elections next year and has urged the President to hold a referendum on Dec. 17 for a renewed mandate.

President Marcos described the new moves as "an experiment." He said that they would establish the foundation of a new political system peculiar to the Philippines, under which he would retain overriding authority.

The council proposed yesterday that most members of the new assembly should be elected, but that others should be appointed by the President.

Kidnapped Magnate

Caransa—A Runaway Child And Self-Made Millionaire

By Paul Hofmann

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 30 (NYT).—Some time ago Maurits Caransa, the real estate magnate who was kidnapped on Friday, received an offer of 100 million guilders (\$42.5 million) for his hotel holdings from a large British group. He turned it down and, when he was asked why, he replied: "What does one do with 100 million?"

Caransa, whom Amsterdamers familiarly call Maup, did not always exhibit such insouciance toward money. "Money," he has often said, "is but a tool for me, like a hammer for a carpenter."

A health enthusiast, the 61-year-old businessman went to Romania in September for a checkup and rest cure in that country's internationally advertised medical centers that promise to restore off the effects of aging.

The Amsterdam newspaper De Telegraaf sent a photographer-reporter there to record how one of the wealthiest men in the Netherlands was doing in a Communist vacation spot. Mr. Caransa above all raved about the 51 haircut he had just gotten. "When I go to the barbershop at the French Riviera, it must be \$80 to be good," he told the visitor from home.

Mr. Caransa's money was acquired in the 30-year career of a self-made man.

He was born in Amsterdam on Jan. 5, 1916, into an impoverished family whose ancestors were Portuguese Jews. His father had a tannery and a coal and paraffin business. The family moved to an offshore island, business did not go well, and little Maup, as he often told later, at times went to bed in the attic without a dinner.

He started working at the age of 12—laundry boy, flower vendor, pushcart peddler, garage attendant, auto mechanic. He also ran away from home and never finished school.

What seemed to attract him most in those days was junkyards. He was not yet 20 when he bought wrecked cars, fixed them up as well as he could and sold them at a profit.

Then World War II broke out and the Nazis occupied the Netherlands. The SS overlooked him in wartime Amsterdam, which Mr. Caransa has attributed in part to his blond hair and blue eyes. "But it's still a mystery to me how I managed to survive," he has said.

His parents and three brothers were deported and never came back. Only a sister survived.

After the war, Mr. Caransa found junkyards of the first magnitude—the U.S. Army surplus depots. He bought and resold trucks and other equipment and soon had enough cash to go into real estate. Characteristically, his first investments were garages.

What came after was a successful venture in Amsterdam's real estate boom. He bought and sold, developed and controlled revenue-producing property—hotels, motels, garages, shopping centers, office buildings and residential complexes.

It is said here, with little exaggeration, that there is no foot of frontage on Amsterdam's Rembrandt Square that Mr. Caransa did not own at some time. He also had the underground parking garage built. Fittingly, the modern Caransa Hotel stands there, flagship of his empire.

For a brief period, Mr. Caransa also owned the venerable Amstel Hotel. The hotel was ambushed by his kidnappers in front of that Amsterdam landmark on Professor Tulp Square, as he was leaving his twice-a-week bridge game at the exclusive Continental Club to drive his Rolls-Royce to his villa at Vinkenveen, 12 miles south of the city.

Mr. Caransa had no bodyguard and never had thought he needed one. He used to say he had no enemies and was not afraid of anyone.

He did have an electronic alarm system in the Vinkenveen villa for the protection of his wife, Rika, their daughter and their grandchildren.

Mr. Caransa has never shown interest in politics, although he has had squabbles over zoning laws and public works projects. During the last few years, Mr. Caransa has been in business and finance has seemed mediocre. He bought travel bureaus, dabbled in air charter operations and was said to have become a friend of Prince Bernhard, husband of Queen Juliana.

His name also became a household word in sports. He bought racehorses and bankrolled Amsterdam's famous Ajax soccer club. Mr. Caransa himself saw to it that he got regular physical workouts to keep fit. He never

Family Asks For Contacts In Abduction

(Continued from Page 1)

Caransa was leaving a nightclub where he had been playing bridge and was about to go to his home at Vinkenveen of the city.

The phone call to Het Nieuws in German. The caller said: "You are speaking to the Army Faction. We have Caransa. You will hear from us."

"Red Army Faction" is a name by which the surviving members of the Baader-Meinhof gang want to be known. The extremist underground group assumed responsibility for abduction and murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, the president of the West German Employers' Industry Federations whose

was found in the trunk of a car in Mulhouse, France, on Oct. 25. The first call to the Amsterdam daily after the Caransa kidnapping was followed by a more telephone message to city's newspapers. Most of calls were quickly recognized as deceptive.

The barrage of the telephone messages to the news media, apparently not to the author—continued yesterday and today—Investigators complained the large number of calls that had to be checked out, only proved misleading, was hindering their efforts to track Caransa and his captors.

Several of the callers said Mr. Caransa would regain freedom only if Mr. Tjallingii were released from jail in the Netherlands. Mr. Tjallingii was arrested in Utrecht on 22 after a battle in which policeman was killed. He was wanted by West Germany, suspect in various crimes, possibly including Schleyer kidnapping.

One of the calls received yesterday was a demand for an exchange involving Caransa and the imprisoned man.

Earlier yesterday a statement disclosed that Mr. Tjallingii had been transferred from Utrecht police barracks to a more secure prison in Maastricht. The authorities stressed that Caransa was not connected with Amsterdam abduction. Mr. Tjallingii is due to go on to a murder charge in Drenthe.

Schleyer Criticism Alleged

MUNICH, Oct. 30 (UPI).—Schleyer criticized the West German government for failing to give him proper protection, tape-recording made before murder, a leading opposition politician said yesterday.

Christian Socialist Union leader Franz-Josef Strauss said that the recording was all to his partner in the opposition Christian Democratic Union, while Mr. Schleyer was a hostage.

Mr. Schleyer stated in recording, apparently made under the supervision of his captors, that the Bonn government had been incapable of providing him with proper protection, Strauss said.

He said that Mr. Schleyer said that the government made mistakes in security it said led to his capture.

Sadat Arrives In Romania for Mideast Talks

VIENNA, Oct. 30 (Reuters).—Egyptian President Anwar Sadat arrived in Bucharest yesterday to discuss Middle East developments with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. After two days of talks here, Mr. Sadat plans to travel to Iran and Saudi Arabia.

The discussions in the countries are expected to concentrate on efforts to reach Geneva talks.

There was speculation the Ceausescu, who met the Egyptian leader at Bucharest, might have a message to Sadat from Israel.

Romania is the only East European country that did not break relations with Israel after 1967 Middle East war. In 1967, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol went to Bucharest for the first foreign visit after his return to the United States.

Mr. Sadat had planned a Yugoslav visit after leaving Romania but the visit had to be canceled because President Tito was ordered by his doctors to rest.

Soviet A-Tests Report

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (UPI).—The Soviet Union exploded nuclear devices in Siberia, the U.S. Department of Energy said yesterday.

FEDERAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

INVITATION TO CONSULTANTS—INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL CITY.

The Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) has been entrusted by the Federal Military Government of Nigeria with the task of building a new Capital City.

The selected territory for the Capital is an area of 8,000 square kilometers in the heart of Nigeria. The territory is largely undeveloped.

It is expected that the Authority will recommend a Master Plan of the City and the entire Region to the Government in 1978 and that the first proposals for infrastructure projects will be designed during that period, to implement the Master Plan.

The Authority intends to develop the territory by coordinating the skills of its own professional and allied staff with those offered by Consultants and by seeking the support of the Nigerian Ministries and parastatals which provide nationwide services.

In order to coordinate the Authority's proposals for infrastructures with the design stage of the Master Plan exercise, the Authority is now inviting Consultants with proven skills in the relevant fields to submit full details of their interests and experience for consideration.

Pre-qualification submissions should be submitted, on or before, December 6th, 1977, to:

The Executive Secretary,
Federal Capital Development Authority,
State House,
11 Marina,
F.M.B. 12534,
Lagos,
NIGERIA.

Submissions will be considered under the following headings:

1. PROJECT MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION:

Consultants are invited to assist FCDA in programming the infrastructural development and in scheduling and monitoring all construction activities required to build a new city.

2. PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS:

Consultants are invited to assist FCDA with the planning and design of the following elements of the infrastructure:

- (I) Road Systems;
- (II) Mass Transport Systems Public & Private, multi-modal;
- (III) Airports;
- (IV) Electrical Supply & Distribution;
- (V) Communications Systems;
- (VI) Water Supply & Water Systems;
- (VII) Sewerage Systems.

THIS IS NOT A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS. After the selection process, selected firms will be invited to prepare a proposal based upon programming information to be supplied by FCDA after January 1978. Consultants should state for which work they wish to be considered. Submissions, in six copies, should provide the following particulars:

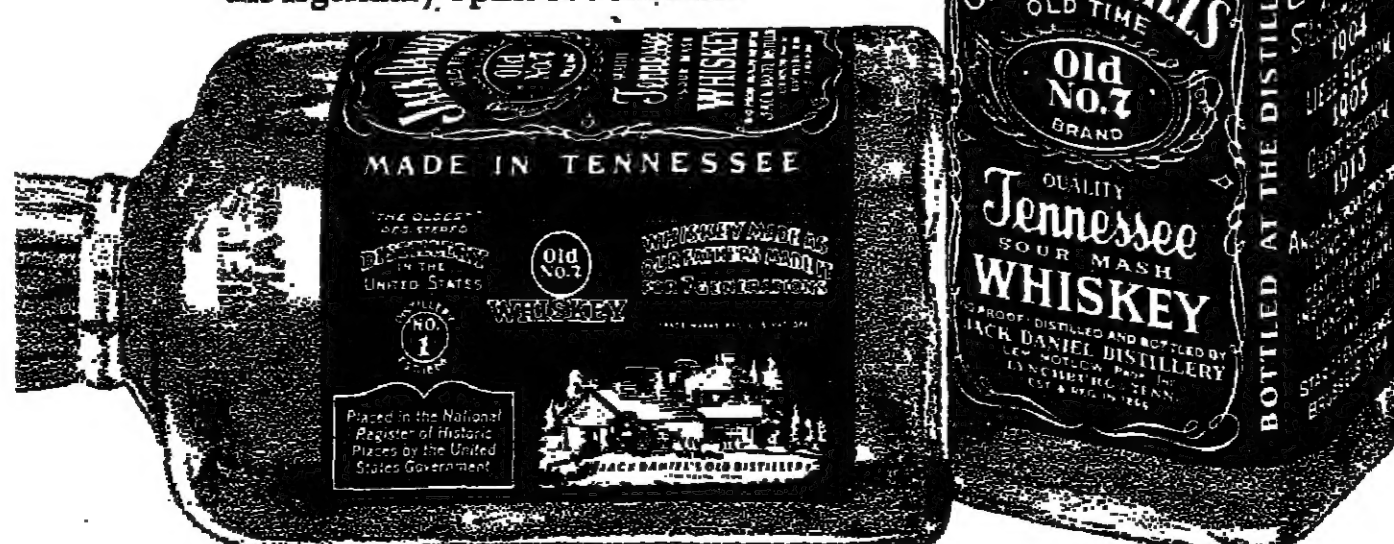
1. City building or major urban projects for which the Consultant was responsible.
2. Experience in developing countries.
3. The names, experience & qualifications of the responsible partners.
4. Two referees to whom FCDA may apply in confidence.

CONSULTANTS SHOULD MAKE THEMSELVES FAMILIAR WITH PROFESSIONAL WORKING CONDITIONS IN LAGOS AND IN THE TERRITORY AS THEY WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN SUPPORT, TRANSPORT AND ACCOMMODATION BEFORE FACILITIES CAN BE PROVIDED BY THE AUTHORITY.

THE SPIRIT OF TENNESSEE

is warm and welcoming.
Mellowed by time. Gently by tradition.
Historically hospitable.
Its unique character developed by charcoal-mellowing.
Request it by name.

Charcoal-mellowed Jack Daniel's—
the legendary Spirit of Tennessee



News Analysis

Social Security Bill Reflects Rise in U.S. Aged, Retirees

By Spencer Rich

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (UPI).—The Social Security tax increase approved last week by the House of Representatives would, if enacted, be one of the largest peacetime tax increases in U.S. history, rivaled in recent years only by the wartime levies for Korea and Vietnam.

The House bill would add an estimated \$200 billion to the combined taxes of workers and employers during the next 10 years, an amount thereafter. That is in addition to stable tax increases already scheduled under present law. It works out to an average of \$10 billion a year in extra taxes on employers and employees.

Most of this money would flow from younger workers to older retirees. In that sense, the bill is a first installment on the painful inter-generational politics that the United States has been warned to expect as the population ages and the number of retirees rises.

The emphasis last week was on the effect the bill would have on higher-income workers; those at the highest income levels would have their Social Security taxes tripled in the next 10 years. It went almost unmentioned that Social Security taxes also will rise 21 per cent for the average and poorest U.S. workers.

Percentage Would Rise
The rates they pay would rise under the bill from this year's 5.85 per cent to 7.1 per cent by 1988, and go still higher later. For many, Social Security taxes

have already surpassed what they pay in federal income taxes. The bill would accelerate that process.

While House members found it politically painful to vote such taxes, they also found it painful to contemplate the alternative—a drying-up of the Social Security trust funds and an eventual reduction in the benefits to 53 million persons—one of every seven.

"We can't let the old people down," said the House Social Security subcommittee chairman, James Burke, D-Mass., when Rep. Barber Conable, R-N.Y., Rep. William Steiger, R-Wis., and others warned that the tax increases would be a "staggering load" for business and employees.

The House further eased the pain by deferring most of the contemplated tax increases until after the next election, and hopefully also after the economy recovers more completely.

Outer Limits

Still, there was a sense that the Social Security tax may be reaching its outer limits. Rep. Richard Gephardt, D-Miss., a sponsor of the bill, virtually conceded as much when he told the House, "We've raised the taxes to the breaking point."

The debate on the bill and statistics on general taxes paid by the worker underscore two facts about Social Security: the heavy load it lays on the working person—even the low-income worker—and the huge role that Social Security now plays in the economy.

A dozen years ago, the maximum amount of wages subject to the payroll tax was \$4,800 and the tax rate was 3.25 per cent each on employers and employees—a maximum tax of \$174 each. Today the maximum tax is \$965.25. Existing law would raise those figures up, but the new taxes voted by the House would raise the maximum taxable wage still further to \$42,600 by 1987 with a rate of 7.10 per cent—a maximum tax of \$3,025 for the high-income worker.

From \$585 to \$710

That would mean heavy new taxes on high-income workers. But the lower-income worker also would suffer. A married taxpayer, with a spouse and two children, making \$10,000 a year pays \$585 in Social Security taxes. His Social Security tax would rise to \$710 in 1987.

Such a worker today is probably paying only \$448 in federal income tax, so his Social Security tax is higher than his income tax. A married taxpayer with a spouse and two children does not pay any federal income tax on the first \$7,200 of earnings. But such a worker would pay \$431 for Social Security.

These figures reflect in miniature the larger story of Social Security's tremendous role in the economy. Its benefits for many are the chief source of income. More than 100 million workers are subject to the tax. Benefits paid this year will be about \$87 billion for support of old-age and disability pensioners, plus more than \$22 billion for Medicare. And a few billion dollars short of that will be taken out of the economy through the payroll tax to finance the benefits.



JILL-O-LANTERN—With a little help from Michu the Midget, 10-month-old Ibi Axt samples her first Halloween jack-o'-lantern during a Boston show by the Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Minneapolis to New York

Police Probe Inter-City Flow Of U.S. Teen-Age Prostitutes

By Selwyn Raab

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (NYT).—Two Minneapolis policemen will search the streets of midtown Manhattan next week for hundreds of Minnesota teen-agers who have been lured into lives as prostitutes in New York.

Besides trying to get the youngsters to return to their homes, the Minneapolis officers will be looking for more evidence about the "pipeline"—an apparently organized system in which New York-based pimps recruit girls in Minnesota and transport them to New York.

"We have a tremendous amount of young women, entrapped into prostitution and in a short period of time, a matter of days, they are taken to New York," said Lt. Gary McGaughey of the Minneapolis Police Department's Special Investigations Division.

Lt. McGaughey said that pimps have increasingly sought out young women in Minneapolis because the city has become a magnet for thousands of teen-age runaways in the upper Middle West who seek jobs and shelter there.

400 Sent in '76

During last year, Lt. McGaughey estimated, 400 teen-agers from Minneapolis and nearby communities were picked up by pimps and sent to New York.

"The overall number in the last couple of years must be at least a thousand and the problem is getting bigger and bigger," he asserted.

The discovery of a new Minneapolis-New York prostitution link came partly from testimony given by Minneapolis girls who recently returned to their homes voluntarily or who were arrested in New York, Lt. McGaughey noted.

In New York, Lt. McGaughey and Al Palmquist, an ordained minister who is a Minneapolis police officer, will coordinate their efforts with city vice detectives and investigators from the State Legislature's Select Committee on Crime. The committee has been investigating possible organized crime influence on teen-age prostitution.

'The Minnesota Strip'

The first indication of a prostitution connection between New York and Minneapolis came in the early 1970s when vice squad detectives began arresting young blonde women from the Middle West for street walking in the Times Square area. That led police to label Eighth Avenue in that area "the Minnesota Strip."

But local detectives said that the influx of teen-age prostitutes from Minneapolis has recently increased considerably. Detectives and investigators from the legislative crime committee said that they knew of no other comparable inter-city prostitution network.

Jeremiah McKenna, chief counsel of the legislative crime committee, said that New York pimps have stepped up their recruiting of white and Indian teenagers as well as black girls. About 200 separate pimps had been identified as looking for prostitutes in Minneapolis, Lt. McGaughey continued. Most of the girls were taken to New York but other pimps from New Orleans and Boston also were active in Minneapolis, he said.

"The New York pimps have a pitch that the girls can make thousands of dollars a week in New York and that the police there won't identify them and send them home," the lieutenant asserted.

Use Training Session

The pimps from New York City induce the young women to prostitute themselves in Minneapolis before being sent to New York, Lt. McGaughey said, explaining:

"It's like a training session for three or four days. If the girls work out in Minneapolis, as soon as they earn enough money for

the plane fare they are put on a plane and taken to New York. And with juveniles they get them out of here [Minneapolis] as fast as possible."

Lt. McGaughey said that the Minneapolis police detained every young woman arrested for prostitution until she could prove conclusively that she was at least 18 years old and no longer a juvenile under Minnesota law. In New York, the juvenile-court jurisdiction ends when a person reaches the age of 16.

"The pimps take the girls—and it's partly true—that if they are arrested in New York identification checks are not as thorough as in Minneapolis and that their ages won't be known," Lt. McGaughey said. According to him, a 16-year-old who was a prostitute for more than a year in New York said that she had been arrested 40 times without her real age and identity being ascertained.

Lie About Age

Police and court officials in New York City—where more than 6,000 prostitution arrests occurred last year—acknowledged that it was difficult to determine the ages of young women who are arrested and lie about their age.

A recent example of this problem came to light this month when it was learned that a 12-year-old Brooklyn girl had been arrested 12 times for prostitution with the police usually unaware of her real age. The child was killed in July in a mysterious fall from the 19th floor of a hotel.

Moscow Parade To Include New Tracked Vehicles

MOSCOW, Oct. 30 (AP).—The Soviet parade through Red Square next Monday to mark the 60th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution will include tracked vehicles for the first time in three years, one of them the new T-72 tank, Western military sources said.

The tank has been deployed with Soviet forces in East Germany for nearly a year. But it has been kept from Western view inside the Soviet Union, even though it has been in production for more than a year.

Western sources said the Soviet Union planned a bigger weapons display this year than any since 1974. But they interpreted this as keeping with the 50th anniversary milestone and not a new flexing of military muscle.

Cigarette Opponent Wins Minnesota Suit

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 30 (UPI).—Mrs. Ann Houk kicked a cigarette out of a smoker's hand on a bus and got a broken nose and \$8,000 in return.

Mrs. Houk, 59, said a man was standing with a lit cigarette in his hand at about the height of his knee. Mrs. Houk raised her foot and "smashed the cigarette out of his hand," she said. She said she was then struck on the nose. A jury awarded damages to Mrs. Houk, saying the defendant, the Metropolitan Transit Commission, was responsible because the bus driver did not intervene to prevent injury to her.

Smallpox in Somalia

ATLANTA, Oct. 30 (UPI).—The world's last-known center of smallpox is southern Somalia, where 3,203 cases have occurred since January, the National Center for Disease Control said Friday.

His Testimony Is Crucial

Without Tongsun Park, U.S. Doubts Wider Korea Probe

By Charles R. Babcock

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (UPI).—The Justice Department's investigation of South Korean influence-buying in Congress could produce more indictments if crucial testimony from accused Korean agent Tongsun Park is obtained. Without the testimony no further charges are likely.

That is how the Justice Department now assesses its 10-year inquiry. And it explains why three department officials went to Seoul two weeks ago in an unsuccessful effort to arrange for the questioning of Mr. Park. So far, only Mr. Park, Korean businessman Hancho Kim and former Rep. Richard Hanna have been indicted.

A Korean official has told The Washington Post that "under no circumstances" would the Seoul regime let Mr. Park leave the country. "The man is a bomb," he said.

The official explained that the government felt Mr. Park was capable of saying anything "in his own interest." And if Mr. Park felt it was in his interest to implicate his government, he would not hesitate to do so "for his own selfish purposes," the official said.

Unconvincing

South Korean officials have claimed that they tried to persuade Mr. Park to return to the United States to face a 26-count felony indictment, which charges that he took part in a Korean government-sponsored campaign to bribe members of Congress.

But it seems clear the Korean government was more concerned about the damage it might suffer from Mr. Park's future testimony than about the adverse political fallout from its failure to cooperate was sure to produce.

Congressional support for continued military aid to South Korea has eroded so much since the failure of the Justice Department talks in Seoul that House leaders have decided to postpone hearings on a new \$800-million aid package.

Mr. Park's testimony is considered the crucial and missing link in several possible criminal cases because in many instances he is believed to have made cash payments directly to members of Congress with no other witnesses present.

The Hanna Case

In the case of Mr. Hanna, a California Democrat, the only member of Congress indicted in the investigation so far, there is evidence that he received payments from Mr. Park by checks, which are easily verifiable.

Benjamin Civiletti, head of the

department's criminal division, said in a recent interview that he made it clear to the Koreans during his trip to Seoul that Mr. Park's testimony was "critical to the completion of our investigation."

Without that testimony, he said, the Justice investigation was 95-per-cent finished, and future indictments doubtful without some kind of break.

Evidence Sought

The federal investigators are known to be hoping to persuade Mr. Hanna and Mr. Kim, a Korean-born naturalized U.S. citizen and Washington-area businessman, to provide them with evidence about others who took cash or gifts in the lobbying campaign.

Mr. Hanna has been charged with joining Mr. Park in persuading the Korean Central Intelligence Agency to provide funds for the scheme and with passing some of the money to other members himself. Mr. Kim is alleged to have received \$500,000 in cash from the KCIA for his part in the same lobbying effort. Mr. Kim and Mr. Hanna have denied the charges.

Vote by Senate Hints at Shift on Crude-Oil Levy

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (NYT).—The Senate yesterday refused to go on record as opposing the President's proposed tax on domestically produced crude oil, although the tax had been rejected by the Finance Committee.

The 47-to-30 vote was on a nonbinding resolution but it was a first sign that the Senate might accept a bill with the tax in the conference with the House.

The House bill includes the tax, which would total nearly \$15 billion a year, and Sen. Russell Long, D-La., who is expected to head the Senate conference delegation, has indicated that he would be willing to agree to the tax if it were accompanied by energy production incentives.

As one step along this path, the Senate voted in a rare Saturday session to provide for an energy trust fund, into which would go excess revenues from energy taxes and out of which would come money to finance development of alternate energy and conservation and "energy-efficient" forms of transportation.

Round-the-World Pan Am Flight Nears Home and Speed Record

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Oct. 30 (UPI).—Virtually assured of setting a speed record for its flight around the world, a Pan American World Airways jumbo jet landed here today.

Spirits were high among the 148 passengers despite almost two days of nearly continuous flying. The special-performance Boeing 747 has made two previous stopovers, in London and Cape Town, and flown over the North Pole and the South Pole. The plane left San Francisco on Friday in a bid to make a 26,642-mile polar circuit of the world in 48 hours 40 minutes. The previous record was set in 1956 by a Boeing 707 cargo jet that made a similar trip in 89 hours 27 minutes 25 seconds. The flying time to New Zealand was logged unofficially as 36 hours 39 minutes.

"It would appear we've got the record beat now, no matter what," said Capt. Walter Müllich, the flight commander. He planned to push the plane to its top speed, almost nine-tenths the speed of sound, through most of the final leg.

The flight is to celebrate the 50th anniversary of U.S. international aviation and the 50th birthday of Pan Am.

U.S. Probing Alleged Betrayal Of Defecting S. Korean Agent

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—The Justice Department is investigating charges that a congressman endangered the life of a defecting South Korean intelligence agent by informing the agent's superiors that he planned to seek political asylum in the United States.

The congressman, Edward Derwinski, R-Ill., is one of South Korea's staunchest supporters in Congress, where he has served 10 terms.

Rep. Derwinski, 51, the ranking Republican on a House International Relations subcommittee that is examining activities in the United States of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, denied Friday that he had leaked information concerning Sohn Young Ho, who had approached the subcommittee about defecting.

Mr. Sohn defected on Sept. 16 about 24 hours after alerting some persons on the House International Organizations subcommittee to his plans.

He and his family were given protective custody by the FBI only a short time before Sohn. Korean agents arrived at his home to intercept him, knowledgeable sources said.

Rep. Derwinski's name has not been linked to the influence

of the issue under discussion.

The two delegations were led by ambassador Adrian Fisher of the United States and V. I. Likhachev of the Soviet Union, who are the co-chairmen of the Geneva Disarmament Conference, where the chemical arms ban was discussed for years.

The U.S.-Soviet talks on chemical weapons were started as an initiative of the co-chairman for the disarmament conference, which had failed to make any progress on them. The bilateral talks will be resumed Jan. 16.

Italy Oil Disaster Averted

GENOVA, Oct. 30 (Reuters).—An estimated 9,000 tons of crude oil that spilled from a tanker into the Gulf of Genoa during an unloading operation yesterday is now drifting away from shore, reducing fears it will pollute beaches. The oil flowed for four hours after a valve on the 150,000-ton Kuwaiti tanker Al-Rawdah broke.

Reagan to Lead GOP Attack on Panama Treaties

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (UPI).—In an attempt to exploit the Panama Canal treaties as a partisan political issue, the Republican National Committee has enlisted Ronald Reagan to spearhead a major mail campaign aimed at raising \$2 million from treaty opponents.

The committee is preparing to send a six-page, fund-raising letter, written and signed by the former California governor, to between a half million and a million people on its mailing list.

In the letter, Mr. Reagan—the most influential figure among U.S. political conservatives—attacks the treaties as a surrender of vital U.S. strategic interests and calls for an all-out effort to block their approval by the Senate.

The letter asks recipients to sign enclosed petitions opposing the treaties and to contribute toward "a minimum of \$2 million" to the Republican party.

"Unless these funds are raised," the letter says, "we won't defeat those Democrats who vote time and time again to support actions that weaken our national security. . . . Believe me, without your support, the canal is as good as gone."

Soviet Satellite Up

MOSCOW, Oct. 30 (UPI).—The Soviet Union last week launched the Molnia 3 communications satellite.

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But Earns Workhorse Reputation

Carter Said to Age Fast Under Job Strains

By James I. Wooten

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (NYT).—Presidents seem to grow older faster than the average citizen and Jimmy Carter is no exception.

After nine months in office, the changing contours of his face, so clearly delineated by the lighting at his televised news conferences here Thursday, suggest an aging process unrelated to time, undisguised by his light layer of makeup.

Since his inauguration, President Carter has come to be seen by several old-timers in this city as one of the most diligent men ever to hold the office, a perception fostered not only by his long days and many evenings in the little study next to the Oval Room office but by the prodigious amounts of material that move across his desk.

"About the only one I can think of who might come close to him on that point would be FDR," Thomas Corcoran, a veteran of the Roosevelt years, said not long ago. Others as old as Mr. Corcoran agree.

Judging Presidents

"Truman wasn't lazy but he wasn't gung-ho for work, either," a retired journalist said recently. "Eisenhower did only what

was necessary. Kennedy was up-and-down, off-and-on about it. Johnson was a wheel-spinner—he'd go hard all day and never get much done—Nixon took naps in the afternoon and Ford was a lot like Johnson."

That, apparently, is not the case with President Carter, who approaches the job and moves through his crowded schedule like a candidate late for a rally.

The President's stamina came to the fore again during his exhausting trip back and forth across the country on Oct. 21, 22 and 23.

When he landed at Andrews Air Force Base on the afternoon of Oct. 23, with 7,500 miles behind him, the jet-lag that was evident on the faces of his staff did not seem to have registered on him. "No, I'm not tired, not tired at all," he said with a laugh in his compartment aboard Air Force One. "I'm just getting in shape for the big one."

Foreign Mission

His reference was to the 11-day, 25,000-mile journey to nine countries on four continents that begins Nov. 22, an itinerary that some of his White House assistants believe will tax even the President's stamina, not to mention their own.

"I may resign effective Nov. 21."

a senior aide joked. "I'm not worried about how he's going to handle it. I'm worried about whether I'll survive."

That anxiety, although jokingly expressed, is a pertinent subject at the White House these days, for as other presidents have demanded and received extreme loyalty and devotion from their assistants, Mr. Carter, both by instruction and example, is served by men and women whose days begin early and end late.

Early in his administration, he said that he did not want that to happen. He told his staff members to spend more time with their families. He has not mentioned it in a long time and few of them have heeded his original advice.

Eisenstat Is Tired

The strain seems most evident in the faces of such aides as Stuart Eisenstat, his assistant for domestic affairs and policy, and Frank Moore, his assistant for congressional liaison, on whose shoulders has fallen much of the work load for the administration's first nine months.

"Stu looks like a ghost," a startled Bostonian friend said last week. He had not seen Mr. Eisenstat in several months.

"Moore will not last much longer," a close friend speculated. "From what I can see, he's not eating right and even though he's working to all hours, he's not even sleeping. The work load and the pressure are just unbelievable."

Both men may have taken some comfort in the President's declaration at his news conference Thursday that he does not anticipate any more major legislative initiatives from the White House next year, "unless they evolve."

U.K. Eyes Cuts In Ulster Forces

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (NYT).—British Defense Minister Frederick Mulley believes there is a good chance that his government will be able to reduce its forces in Northern Ireland if civil strife there continues to dwindle and if the Royal Ulster Constabulary is able to take over more security duties from the army.

Mr. Mulley was recently in Washington to confer with U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown.

The garrison of 14,000 men includes 14 maneuver battalions, helicopter squadrons and headquarters units. In the last year, the constabulary, armed with a variety of infantry weapons, has been taking over some of the army's security missions.



YES, BUT CAN HE WHISTLE 'DIXIE'?—Sam the Robot attracts a few startled glances as he rolls through a Cincinnati department store. He's 5-foot-2, weighs 180 pounds, has no eyes or legs but brags a lot about his 4,600-word taped vocabulary. Through a computer sensor, Sam responds to questions when he hears key words programmed in his interior. Sam was made by Quasar Industries.

On Conventional Weapons

Carter to Offer Arms-Sale Cutback to Moscow

By Bill Peterson

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (WP).—President Carter, describing the United States as the world's largest arms peddler, said he intended "before long" to offer the Soviet Union proposals to limit the sale of conventional weapons around the world.

In proposing for the first time a major-power agreement to put controls on the \$20-billion-a-year industry, Mr. Carter said: "We all feel that it should be cut back. How to do it is another matter, of course, that is very difficult to address."

"We are the worst violator at this time, the Soviets perhaps next, and the French, British and Belgians, to some degree, participate in this excessive arms sale," he said.

Mr. Carter made his statements during an interview with a group of visiting newspaper columnists and editorial writers on Friday. A transcript of the 43-minute interview was made public yesterday.

The proposal comes at a time when Mr. Carter's arms policy is under mounting criticism both inside and outside government.

The President announced a unilateral policy of restraining U.S. sale of conventional weapons six months ago, saying that the "spiraling arms traffic" represented a "threat to world peace."

Little, however, has been done since.

Defends Communiqué

During the White House session, the President also staunchly defended a joint U.S.-Soviet communiqué on the Mideast issued last month, said the United States was mounting an all-out effort to get international cooperation in thwarting airline hijackers and said he would sign a bill allowing retired persons to earn all they can without losing Social Security benefits.

The joint U.S.-Soviet statement, which urged Israel to recognize the rights of Palestinians, stirred widespread criticism from Jewish groups around the country, who charged that it represented a retreat from long-term commitments to Israel.

Mr. Carter, in his interview, defended it as "a major step forward" and said, "I have never violated any commitments made to the Israelis, either by my administration or by previous administrations."

The President said he recently reviewed all public and private agreements between the two countries with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. "There has not been and will not be any violation of those commitments," he added.

The Soviet Union, Mr. Carter said, is now taking "a much more objective and fair and well-balanced position" in Mideast affairs and has abandoned its earlier demands for creation of an independent Palestinian homeland.

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In Euro-Arab Dialogue

EEC Reiterates Its Support Of Homeland for Palestinian

BRUSSELS, Oct. 30 (UPI).—The Arab world won a joint statement from the Common Market yesterday supporting a Palestinian homeland and condemning Israeli occupation of Arab lands.

The statement, contained in the communiqué closing a round in the European-Arab dialogue between 21 Arab nations and the Common Market, committed the nine-nation European Economic Community to nothing it had not already declared. But diplomats said the joint formulation at the dialogue was a major political victory for the Arabs.

The Common Market said at the outset that it wanted to keep the two-year-old dialogue confined to economic and trade matters. But under continued pressure from Arab nations, the EEC has been forced to give way at least partly to Arab demands that the dialogue be given a political scope as well, diplomats said.

The Common Market stopped short of Arab demands for an arms and economic embargo against Israel and full recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

A PLO representative who participated in the dialogue as a member of the Arab delegation warned that Europe-Arab relations in all spheres could be harmed unless the PLO is eventually given full recognition.

"The European side was informed about our views and is giving them consideration," said Ahmed Dajani, the PLO representative. "But the link between the political and economic aspects of European-Arab relations will become increasingly clear, and the Europeans will be forced to understand the importance of recognizing the PLO."

Mr. Dajani warned that "if the Europeans do not show understanding, the entire complex of our relations will be affected in all fields."

The Arabs earlier had welcomed a European statement recognizing the Palestinians' right to a homeland but complained that

Historian Claims Hitler's Son Lives In North France

LONDON, Oct. 30 (UPI).—A German historian has found the son of Adolf Hitler, alive and living in northern France, the Sunday Times said today.

It said that Dr. Werner Maser, 55, who "made his name by research into the Nazi period," has known for 12 years that Hitler had a son. It said that two years ago Dr. Maser located the son, Jean Lorret, living near the French-German border.

It said that Mr. Lorret is married, the father of nine children and is "desperately ill and does not expect to live much longer."

The newspaper said that Mr. Lorret "is now ready to tell the world about his parentage," not to make money but to let the world "know that Hitler was not impotent."

Hitler "is supposed to have met the mother in 1918 while serving in the First World War," the newspaper said. The boy was given his mother's name and brought up by his grandparents, and "evidence to support his claim comes from several sources," the Sunday Times said.

The priest said that he does not pretend to be an expert on human sexuality, but he said that among the many reasons why husbands and wives seek outside sex are what he calls the "big five": sexual frustration, revenge, curiosity, boredom and recognition-seeking.

The newness, adventure and dreams of erotic firecrackers associated with extramarital romances are factors, too, Mr. Kreidler said. "But it's no big deal to fall in love," he said. "This art is to grow in love."

A recent Redbook magazine reader survey showed 43 per cent of working women and 27 per cent of house-bound women have had an affair, figures still lower than those for men but climbing, Mr. Kreidler said.

"The preconception is [that] it won't happen if we have a happy marriage or if we are religious," he said. "We're human, though—even ministers. The classic story of the minister running off with the organist is not laughed at by clergy."

On the suburban railroads, where current labor unrest began, there was a gradual return to work yesterday and indications that the government was preparing to meet workers' representatives to seek a solution to the conflict. Friday night a bomb ripped up seven meters of a suburban railroad line. Ezeiza International Airport was also back to normal yesterday after a slowdown by maintenance workers and baggage handlers.

Shoppers' Active
Shoppers bought cars, electrical appliances and items before the value-added increase takes effect Tuesday. Prices in general moved upward the new exchange rate.

Prime Minister Menachem Begin went on television last night to urge Israelis to accept the ceasefire with "common sense and national feeling."

Mr. Ehrlich said that the measures would bring the inflation rate to 38 per cent, the same as last year's.

Barre Returns to Paris
BUDAPEST, Oct. 30 (AP).—French Prime Minister Raymond Barre yesterday, ended a day official visit here and returned to Paris. Economic talks, especially Hungary's desire to turn its unfavorable trade balance, were main issues in talks, which also dealt with European security and other international matters.

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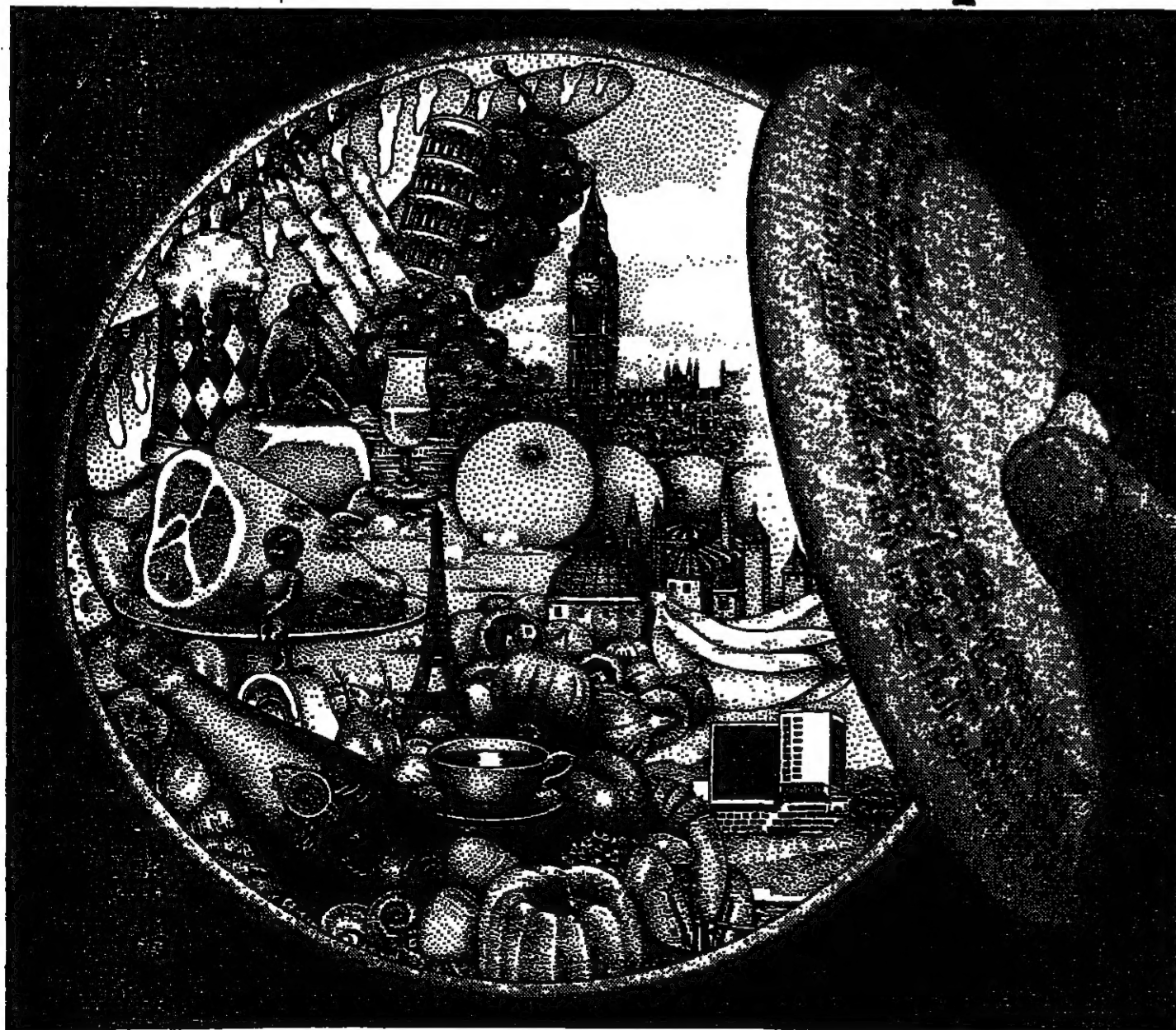
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News Analysis

Union Votes Crucial to Spanish Left

James M. Markham

Oct. 30 (NYT).—The Spanish Socialist Workers' party, which has won an impressive second round of parliamentary elections, but the party, the largest in the assembly, has not yet won the 165 seats in parliament needed to form a government. The party's fortunes in the elections are crucial to the Spanish Left.

At the factory level, the General Union of Workers lags behind the Workers' commissions, whose militants in the late 1960s infiltrated the Franco regime's official unions. The Socialist electoral support last June was heavily blue collar, but they are short on well-known factory militants.

As a result, they are urging that workers be required to vote in closed lists for the union they favor, while the Workers' Commissions are pressing for open lists consisting of the names of established factory leaders, who as often as not would be Communists. The Socialist government seems to favor the Communist position; its labor minister, Manuel Jimenez de Parga, defended Workers' Commission militants when he was a lawyer in Barcelona and he has a brother who is a member of the Communist-controlled federation.

The Socialists accuse Mr. Suarez of underhandedness on other scores as well. The government, they say, has reneged on a pledge to commit itself to return properties that belonged to the General Union of Workers in the 1930s under the Second Republic. The pledge, if given in writing, would have permitted the Socialist union to use its patrimony as collateral for a loan from a West German trade union.

In fact, the whole union question is enveloped in controversy and uncertainty. A strong vein of independent-mindedness runs through Spain's laboring population of 13.5 million and some trade unionists suspect, with anxiety, that the factory elections will produce no clear victor. In that case, management and government will have no clear idea of who speaks for labor.

Mr. Suarez has used the unresolved union question to corral Felipe Gonzalez, the Socialist leader, into an all-party pact on wage and price restraint to check the unerving decline of the Spanish economy. The General Union of Workers is unenthusiastic about the pact, particularly since it seems to have started as an understanding between Mr. Suarez and Santiago Carrillo, the Communist party's secretary-general.

Since the June elections, in which his party won only 9 per cent of the popular vote (the Socialists won 30 per cent), Mr. Carrillo has become the Premier's unabashed collaborator, leading his 20 parliamentary votes to Mr. Suarez's minority government at crucial points. The Communist leader is bolstering his party's claim to respectability; he could also reap some important favors from the government in the union elections.

Mr. Carrillo's strategy in trying to make the Communists the stronger party of the left is to contrast his record of moderation with what some Madrid commentators have begun to call Socialist demagoguery. The Socialists, who have a far more unruly and radical-sounding base than the Communists, contend that they are simply playing the natural role of main opposition party. But in Madrid, where the Fourth Estate holds many Communist sympathizers, the avuncular Mr. Carrillo gets a better press.

The Socialist-Communist competition goes beyond the unions and the Madrid newspapers. Last month, Mr. Carrillo, in another step in his quest for respectability, accepted an invitation to lecture at Yale University next month. Two weeks ago, Douglas Fraser, the president of the United Automobile Workers, passed through Madrid to lend moral support to the Socialists and he extended an invitation to Mr. Gonzalez to visit the United States. The Socialist leader accepted readily, and he also will be going next month.

Four in El Salvador Die in Funeral Clash

SAN SALVADOR, Oct. 30 (Reuters).—The death toll in a cemetery gunfight between police and leftist guerrillas rose to four yesterday when a police inspector died of wounds.

The inspector, two other policemen and a civilian were victims of a shooting incident Friday during the burial of two persons shot during a peasant march the previous day. Police said that the shooting began when guerrillas tried to stop policemen from entering the cemetery.

The military communiqué said that the fighting began Thursday afternoon when a South African patrol clashed with an 80-man SWAPO force just south of the bush clearing on the South African side of the border.

The fighting fluctuated back and forth across the border until yesterday morning, with South African reinforcements drawing fire from SWAPO bases inside Angola, the communiqué said.

The communiqué said: "Five members of the security forces were killed and it was confirmed that at least 61 SWAPO terrorists were killed. At present the situation is quiet."

It said that the defense department will ask that South Africa lodge an official complaint "against this border violation, which is one of a series of similar violations in the same area during the past four months."

800-Mile Border

The communiqué did not say where on the 800-mile border the clash took place. The border includes 280 miles of the narrow South African-controlled Caprivi Strip.

SWAPO guerrillas operate mainly from bases in southern Angola. There are 19,000 Cuban troops backing Angolan President Agostinho Neto's government in the former Portuguese territory.

The commanding officer in South-West Africa's northern Ovamboland territory said last week that an estimated 800 SWAPO guerrillas are now operating in the area, with 2,000 more in Angola and 1,400 on the Zambian side of the Caprivi Strip.



SUGAR CANE?—Young Michelle Cox, 5, of Atlanta, grimaces after sampling a piece of sugar cane at the Farmer's Market. Cane, of course, is the world's primary source of sugar, but Michelle is unconvinced.

66 Are Killed in Border Clash; Record for Namibia Fighting

PRETORIA, Oct. 30 (AP).—Sixty-one black nationalist insurgents and five white South African soldiers were killed in a 36-hour battle across the border between Angola and South-West Africa (Namibia), South African defense headquarters announced late yesterday.

The casualties were the highest for a single battle in the fighting between South African troops and insurgents from the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) in the disputed territory.

South Africa has administered the territory during the last 31 years—12 of them in defiance of United Nations resolutions. News of the battle was announced as Foreign Minister R.F. (Pik) Botha hinted strongly that South Africa might pull out of South-West African independence negotiations with the West if this country is declared a threat to international peace at this week's UN debate to enforce an arms embargo.

80-Man Force

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Financially Overextended

W. German Social Welfare Is an Aging Giant

By Murray Seeger

BONN, Oct. 30.—Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, a man not given to acknowledging mistakes, had to face parliament last year and admit that he had made a whopper. Newly reelected in October, his government had looked at the soaring cost of the social security system and concluded that an increase in pensions had to be postponed for six months.

The decision violated a campaign promise of a 10-per-cent increase and made the Chancellor's frequent pledges about the soundness of the system seem hollow.

It took only a few weeks for Mr. Schmidt and his Cabinet to backslide. In December, Mr. Schmidt told the Bundestag (parliament) that the attempt to hold down pensions had "led to serious discontent and damaged this government's reputation."

Many political experts attribute nearly a year of internal political trouble for Mr. Schmidt to that single error, even though it was quickly corrected.

A Century Old

In West Germany, the issue was particularly magnified because the modern social security system, which most industrial nations take for granted, originated in the German empire nearly a century ago. It may be Germany's greatest single contribution to public administration.

At the time, Chancellor Otto von Bismarck promised that "something positive would be done to remove the causes of socialism" that were sweeping Europe. His first bill was introduced in 1881 and enacted three years later.

"I call it practical Christianity on display," the conservative Prussian told his critics.

The foundation laid by Bismarck proved so strong that it survived two military defeats, national financial collapse and the Nazi era to blossom again as the heart of Germany's modern social democracy.

Other social welfare systems, notably the U.S. version of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, were modeled on the German system. Perhaps because the U.S. and German systems share a common ancestry, both have recently run into the problem of being overextended financially.

The German system has grown far beyond the Bismarck model and the U.S. copy. It includes health and accident insurance, death benefit and rehabilitation payments as well as retirement pensions.

To finance all the benefits, employees and employers make equal contributions based on a percentage of wages. Currently, workers contribute 9 per cent of their wages for the pension plan alone and employers match those

contributions. State medical programs and unemployment insurance take another 7 per cent.

The social security program originally was like an insurance policy. Benefits were to be paid from the earnings of the common fund. The program has been so expanded, especially since Mr. Schmidt took office in 1969, that the insurance concept has disappeared and pensions are paid from government revenues.

The cost of pensions has soared because people are living longer after the retirement age of 65. In addition, the program has become more expensive as more people who made few or only small contributions have been made eligible for benefits.

For example, farmers who sold their property to their sons became eligible for pensions from the state, along with self-employed persons.

Benefits to Poles

Last year, as part of a new treaty with Poland, West Germany agreed to pay the equivalent of \$580 million for pension claims by Poles who had worked for the Nazis or in pre-World War II German territory.

The system also is generous to most retired persons, who receive pension benefits equal to 70 per cent of their last gross earnings when private and state pensions are combined. Two-thirds of German workers are covered by private plans in addition to the universal coverage of social security.

Ethiopians Said To Halt Drive Of Somali Forces

DJIBOUTI, Oct. 30 (Reuters).—Ethiopian troops have halted the advance by Somali forces through eastern Ethiopia near the Dadaab River about 30 miles east of the strategic mountain city of Harar, informed sources here said today.

Harar was the next objective in the Somali advance but the sources said Ethiopian forces still controlled both banks of the river, about halfway between Harar and Jijiga. The Somalis have controlled Jijiga since Sept. 15.

Diplomatic observers said the advance by Somali forces appeared to have stalled in the highlands east of Harar after their swift victories in late summer in which they took most of the Ogaden Desert.

They said that the Ethiopians, who are now believed to be getting new Soviet-supplied tanks and other weapons up to the front line, were holding back their counter-offensive.

Most recipients of state pensions get between 500 and 725 deutsche marks a month (\$217 to \$315).

Another factor raising pension costs is the formula used to protect beneficiaries from inflation and to assure them of a steady standard of living. Called the "dynamic" formula, it raises pensions every year based on wage increases paid to industry during the previous three years.

In that formula worked adequately in periods of full employment but in the last five years has become expensive. From 1969 to 1974, West German wages rose by at least 9.2 per cent a year and as much as 12.7 per cent one year.

There are 11 million persons collecting pensions, of a population of 62 million. Therefore, roughly 2 1/2 workers are supporting each pensioner.

In the federal budget offered in the Bundestag last week, the government included the equivalent of nearly \$3.5 billion to repay advances made to keep the pension program solvent and to guarantee that payments will continue under the "dynamic" formula.

Some economists suggest basing future pension increases on net salary improvements rather than on gross wages, since fringe benefits for West German workers now account for about 60 per cent of wages.

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DUTY FREE PRICES

There's a new plan to save you money on phone calls home from overseas hotels. It's called TELEPLAN, and it's working.

Most of the time, an international phone call is a terrific deal. But on calls from foreign hotels to the United States, unsuspecting travelers may be asked to pay double or triple the official rate.

The difference is called a telephone surcharge. It can be tacked on your bill by any foreign hotel for any call billed through its system. And these surcharges can be outrageously high.

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TELEPLAN is a new international agreement to hold telephone surcharges to reasonable, uniform and clearly-stated limits. So far, the hotels of Ireland, Israel and Portugal have adopted it. When you stay in any hotel in those countries, you know you'll be treated fairly when you place your call home to share your vacation pleasure or simply keep in touch.

But until the rest of the world follows the lead of Ireland, Israel and Portugal, you should remember these telephone techniques:

When you register in any foreign hotel, ask what the hotel surcharge policy is. If it seems excessive, you can usually save money by placing your calls collect, or by using your telephone credit card. (If you do not have one, you can get it without charge from your telephone company.) Also, in most towns and cities abroad there are non-surcharge locations such as post offices, where lowest rates prevail.

It's all described more fully in a brochure called TELEPLAN vs. Hotel Telephone Surcharges. We'll be glad to send it to you, along with a handy pocket guide entitled Getting Around Overseas, if you fill out and mail this coupon.

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MARTINI

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EXTRA DRY

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A Special Debt

It is not hard to understand why Vietnam veterans are looked upon differently from veterans of other U.S. wars. The war was different: limited in its objectives, unconventional in the way it was waged, bitterly controversial even in its early stages, eventually overwhelmingly unpopular—and in the end unwon. And so there is a natural tendency to want to walk away from the wreckage and not to tend to that part of the unfinished business that has to do with the emotional, psychological and economic problems of hundreds of thousands of those Americans who served in the Vietnam era. Many of them are out of work, in need of education or vocational training. The employability of many has been burdened by less-than-honorable discharges, meted out in many cases to men who served in combat, were wounded and even won decorations, but fell victim to the war's pressures and got into trouble after honorable service. The plight of those who served is well documented. But, somehow it has never seemed to merit the swift and sweeping attention accorded to those who did not serve—the draft evaders, whose blanket pardon was the first order of business for the Carter administration.

This state of affairs is something we have been deploring on a fairly regular basis. Early in January, we urged the incoming administration to balance the pardon of the draft evaders with comparable compassion and forgiveness for deserters, and with redoubled efforts to deal with the other problems afflicting Vietnam veterans. Last week, at Veterans' Day ceremonies in Arlington Cemetery, Mr. Carter gave what amounted to a thumbnail report on what he believes he has done subsequently to discharge what he called "a special debt of gratitude on the part of American people to those... who served in Vietnam, because they have not been appreciated enough." Now those are fine and welcome words. But if you closely examine the President's summation and if you look at what seems to be happening to a piece of legislation directly affecting Vietnam veterans that is now before a conference committee in Congress—we think you will agree that the problem of the Vietnam veteran is still something that far too many people would rather talk about than do much about.

Praising Congress for having "responded well," the President talked in a general way about his efforts to increase Veterans Administration compensation and pensions, spoke specifically of increased GI-Bill coverage and a Carter administration jobs program for veterans, and took credit for reversing an effort to reduce from 10 years to eight the deadline for veterans to use their educational entitlements after they leave the service. On this last point, it need only be noted that this was a Ford administration economy gesture that needed no re-

versing since it had no prospect of congressional approval. As for the jobs program, announced with much fanfare in the first month of the Carter presidency, the results to date would argue against even bringing up the subject. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, unemployment in the Vietnam-era age group is higher now than it was when the President's program was announced, and there is little evidence that veterans themselves are having an easier time finding jobs; only a tiny fraction of some \$140 million appropriated in May to help private industry offer training programs for Vietnam veterans has yet been obligated.

The President did not mention his special program for reviewing and upgrading "bad paper" discharges. Administered unaggressively, it reached only 18,000 of the 161,000 who were potentially eligible. And its usefulness was seriously undercut when Mr. Carter, against the advice of key administration figures, refused to veto legislation that will make it markedly more difficult for those whose discharges are upgraded to restore their entitlement to benefits.

Finally, when the President speaks approvingly of increasing GI-Bill coverage, he obviously isn't referring to the current effort by Senate conferees—without administration support—to win acceptance of a complex restructuring of educational benefits. This amendment would not only give Vietnam veterans an extra two years to take advantage of education benefits, but would also permit accelerated use of total tuition entitlements to allow for heavier tuition payments over a shorter period. This latter provision would remove a severe disadvantage imposed upon veterans in the Northeast and Midwest who lack access to low-cost public institutions where the most effective use of GI benefits can be made. It would also be a big help to unemployed veterans, many of them with families, whose greatest need is not a university education but relatively short vocational and technical training. But the latest word is that it is in imminent danger of being quietly scuttled in conference.

If the President is seriously looking for ways to discharge that "special debt" he spoke of, he could begin right now by throwing his weight on the side of the Senate conferees in an effort to rescue the accelerated tuition bill. Representatives of the Vietnam veterans believe that, with congressional approval of the important changes that this bill would make in the existing program of educational benefits, much of the remaining unfinished business of the Vietnam war could probably be dealt with by forceful and compassionate administration of programs already provided by law.

THE WASHINGTON POST.

Hijackers' Heaven

Lovely country, Algeria. If you're a hijacker. It's now the one place remaining in the world where you can be absolutely sure of sanctuary and tender treatment. Why, if you hide off to Algeria and demand, as a Japanese group recently did, to keep the ransom you've just exacted from somebody else and to be spared extradition and to be allowed to leave later as you please and even to avoid being photographed, then Algeria will gladly accommodate you. It's hinted that if, in addition, you wish the prime minister to don a white jacket and serve you breakfast, that too can be arranged.

Just why Algeria decided to make itself into a hijackers' heaven is not clear. Some suspect that the country wants to keep faith with those Palestinians who are still in the terror business—anything for the revolution, you know. Others see the policy as a form of continuing rebellion or revenge against international civilized society. We don't profess to understand, but we do note with astonishment that Algeria is prepared not only to cater to hijackers but actually pub-

licly to defend doing so. Its principal argument is that, by its policy, lives are saved. "Experience shows," the Algerians said the other day, "that only by responding to sky-jackers' demands has loss of life been avoided."

But of course. Leave all the bank vaults open and there will be no bank-robbery fatalities; only peaceful transfers of bank notes. Give hijackers everything they want—money, safety, victory and the liberation of imprisoned mates—and they will have no need to kill anyone, unless they are feeling exceedingly nervous or vicious. The logic is flawless and, at the same time, absurd. Algeria, by advertising itself as the country of asylum, provides an incalculable incentive to hijackers to undertake an act that otherwise they might fear and forgo. Algeria's policy is not so much wrongheaded as criminal. Why must it be indulged? Why do responsible nations have air-transport contacts—or, for that matter, diplomatic contacts—with that outlaw state?

THE WASHINGTON POST.

International Opinion

A Courageous Fight

Who can look on the pictures of the thin, frail writhing that Sen. Hubert Humphrey has become without saluting his courage?

With the shadow of terminal cancer hanging over him, Sen. Humphrey insists on maintaining his public life—the hand outstretched as readily as before, the smile almost as broad.

He could so easily have crawled away. Instead he is fighting his fight in public.

Miracles do happen, and thousands will pray for a miracle in Sen. Humphrey's case. But whether he wins or loses this particular battle, even his most bitter political opponents will give credit to Hubert Humphrey for the way he has chosen to face it.

—From the Sunday Express (London).

In the International Edition

Seventy-Five Years Ago

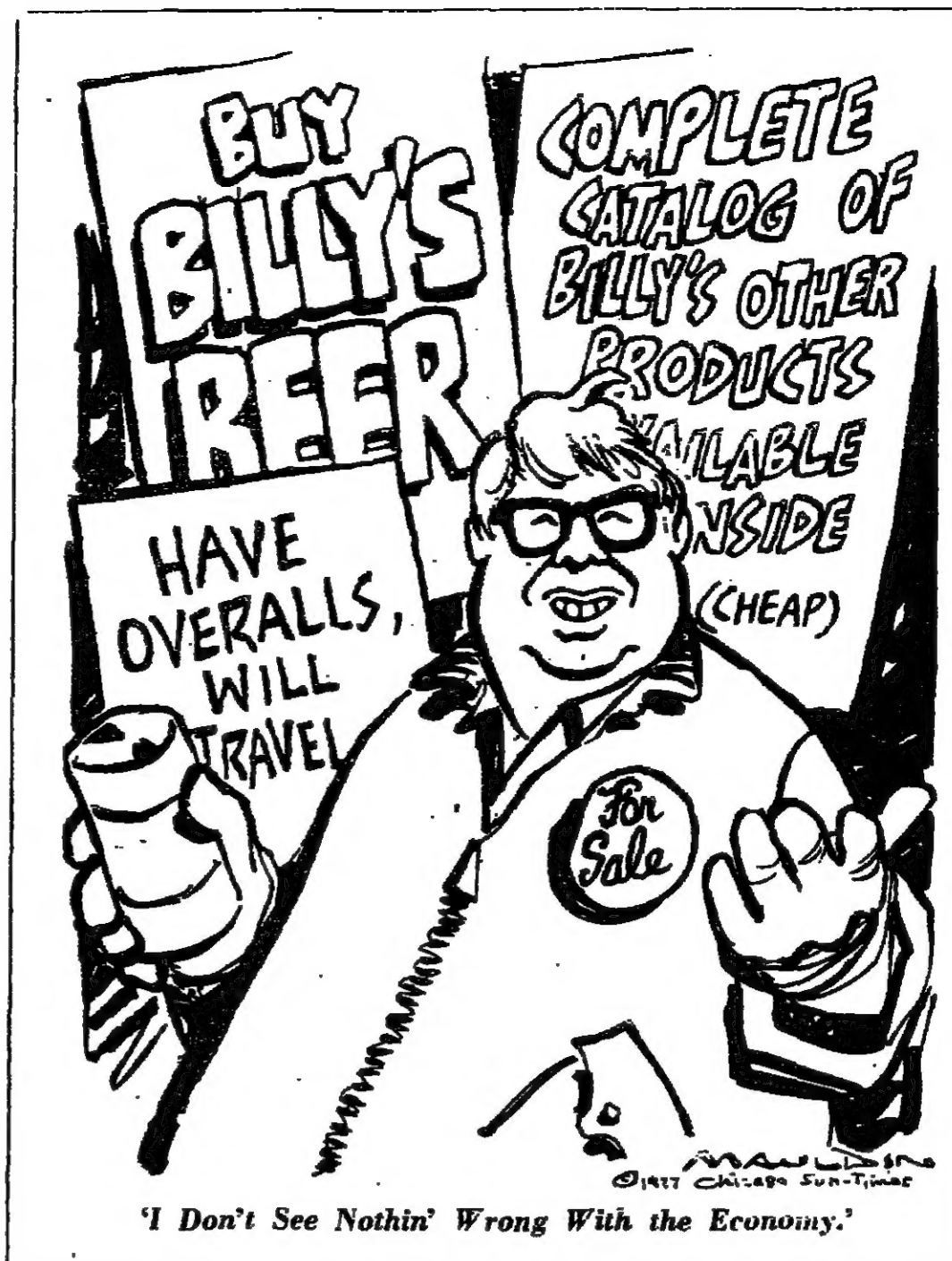
October 31, 1902

NEW YORK—The town of Altman-Cripple Creek, Colo., has had its streets paved with material from the Pharmacists mine recently. Some of the pavement was then assayed and yielded gold to the amount of four pounds a ton. Immediately following the announcement of the assay, people began carting off the surfaces of the streets until the police interfered and stopped them.

Fifty Years Ago

October 31, 1927

LONDON—Darkest Asia's greatest archaeological mystery has been solved by the discovery of the tomb of Genghis Khan, the Mongolian conqueror, 700 years after his death, near the ruins of the dead city of Kharak Khotan in the Gobi Desert. An article in today's Sunday Express states that the discovery was made by Professor Koslov, a Russian explorer, who has been in Central Asia since 1923.



The Keeper of the Conscience

By Joseph Kraft

WASHINGTON—The glowing tributes paid to Hubert Humphrey here last week express more than high personal regard. They also reflect an uneasy sense of something missing from the Senate, and perhaps the country at large.

I mean persons of national stature who also serve as keepers of the national conscience. That is to say, leaders who can rally the country in times—not of danger, which is relatively easy—but of confusion.

It is especially important now to see Sen. Humphrey, warts and all. He might not have made a good president. He lacks the killer instinct, and the capacity to hurt those who would do him in. Hence his inability to stand up to Lyndon Johnson on Vietnam.

Erratic Timing

If not a downright poor politician, moreover, his sense of timing is at least erratic. He took on John Kennedy and George McGovern at the wrong moments in 1960 and 1972. He did not know how to take on Jimmy Carter in 1976.

Good nature has occasionally made him a poor judge of people. Certainly no man ever derived less lustre than Humphrey from his staff. Finally, he does not even make a pretense of efficient management. "I'm a fellow who likes to set out the big building blocks," he often said of himself. "I let other people come along and assemble the mortar."

On the big building blocks, though, he had no peer. In season and out, when it was popular and when it was unpopular, Sen. Humphrey has been right on the great issues of the time. He has been right on civil rights—from his debut on the national scene at the 1948 Democratic Convention to the present. He has been right on arms control from the early 1960s, when it was a loser, to the full flush of détente and after.

He has been at all times right about using the power of government to promote economic welfare and better living conditions.

Only extraordinary personal qualities enabled Sen. Humphrey to stay so long with issues that went into fashion and out. It has happened to me more than once to write stupid things which rightly provoked his ire. But, anger waned with his expression.

Sen. Humphrey nurses no grudges and bears no malice. He is the foremost national example of goodwill at work. His own case provides the rationale for what he called the politics of joy.

His undoubted belief in the goodness of mankind vaulted his personal interest above self-interest to the level of the public interest. His causes were felt to spring from the heart, not ego trips. Whatever his stance, Hubert Humphrey was not a man whom other people long hated, feared, or mistrusted.

Thus a career hitched to great issues survived their ups and downs, and positively thrived in periods of uncertainty and doubt. In good times or in bad, a senator who stood with Sen. Humphrey never had to fear losing a thread from the toga. Win or lose, groups that backed Sen. Humphrey maintained a respectable position. Right or wrong, he could be trusted.

The absence of trust, in the Senate particularly but also in political life generally, now makes his example shine more brilliantly. The Senate is currently torturing itself on the energy question. Why? Because producer interests do not trust a President who reneged on a pledge to deregulate natural gas, and consumer interests do not trust the basic instincts of the Senate majority leader and the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Nor is the lack of confidence a transient matter of the person-

alities temporarily holding down positions of power. Television is the principal medium by which political leaders now attain national stature. It smiles upon those who know how to package themselves in ways that play on the half-conscious hopes and fears of the massed audience. It deals woe unto those who specialize, as Sen. Humphrey has done, in deliberate articulation on identifiable issues.

So an almost desperate timeliness reinforces the praise of Sen. Humphrey on his merits. Neither in the Senate nor in the country shall we see his like soon again—if ever.

U.S. Faces Cruise Missile Crisis

By Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

WASHINGTON—Secret computer studies show that the existing U.S. Cruise missile would not have a chance to penetrate the Soviet Union's sophisticated defense system, a revelation of the Pentagon's sophisticated defense system, a revelation of the Pentagon's sophisticated defense system, a revelation of the Pentagon's sophisticated defense system.

The studies, conducted jointly during the summer by a private contractor and the Pentagon, found that a scheduled "live" test would result in the Tomahawk Cruise missile being shot down by U.S. defenses. Consequently, the Defense Department, two weeks ago canceled the "live" test and substituted a "dead" or simulated test. That was intended to sidestep severe embarrassment for the weapon which became strategically crucial when Mr. Carter shelved the B-1 bomber.

But word has filtered out of the Pentagon, giving ammunition to Capitol Hill critics of the Carter defense policy. The new Strategic Arms Limitation Agreement (SALT-2) being negotiated in Geneva becomes more vulnerable than ever to criticism that it gives the Soviet Union a dangerous advantage.

A Defense Department spokesman told us there was no complete study made and that there will be "live" tests of the Tomahawk. But our sources at the Pentagon reaffirmed in detail the story of the Cruise missile crisis.

A Global Weapon

The President's unexpected decision against B-1 production transformed the Cruise missile from a theater to a global weapon. The Tomahawk, the only existing Cruise missile, was developed as a sea-launched weapon but eventually will be launched from heavy bombers. As such, it is now a critically important U.S. strategic weapon.

The Tomahawk was to be tested beginning Dec. 8 at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada against the U.S. Hawk air defense system on a "live" basis—the surface-to-air missile actually sent against the Hawk radar (which would be launched from a slow-flying aircraft). But the computer studies showed that the Hawk radar would locate the Tomahawk and a surface-to-air Hawk missile would shoot it down.

The implications are unnerving. The Hawk is similar to the Soviet SAM-3 system, which the Russians consider obsolete and peddle to their client countries. If the Tomahawk cannot get past the

Andropov Disease And How to Treat

By C.L. Sulzberger

WASHINGTON—While he recently predicted in a study prepared together with two other experts on the spread of returns in the theory and practice of intelligence that even Moscow would ease certain brutalities, Prof. Steven Dodder of Sweden's Lund University stresses that as of now—and despite the Helsinki accord on European security—the Soviet secret police are still rigorously squashing dissidents by harsh practices.

Dodder especially emphasizes the KGB (secret police) habit of trying to mold uniformity of opinion by incarcerating in mental hospitals those who disagree with Communist philosophy and methodology as it is now applied in the Soviet Union. To support this thesis he quotes in extenso from a speech made last month in Moscow by Yuri Vladimirovich Andropov, chairman of the Soviet State Security Committee and therefore boss of the entire KGB apparatus. Among those who listened to his address were Brezhnev, Kosygin and Gromyko.

'New Type of Man'
The security chief asked a particularly salient question: "How can one explain that after 60 years of Soviet power there still exist in the Soviet Union the so-called 'nakomisluyoshi'?" This means "those who think differently" and represents what the West has come to call "dissidents."

According to the KGB analysis: "We know from the writings of Marx and Lenin, and from life itself, that the education of a new type of man requires an exceptionally long time and effort—much larger, even, than the accomplishment of deep-going socio-economic changes."

The belief that "a new type of man" can be manufactured was called "human engineering" in Stalin's day and caused the Soviet government to place heavy reliance on an artificial pseudo-science of genetics that was later demonstrably proven to be false and wholly dropped.

Because of the "exceptionally long time and effort" required, Andropov acknowledged, there is still "divergent thinking" in the Soviet Union. He explained that this stemmed from various causes: political and ideological "delusions," religious fanaticism, nationalist prejudices (meaning from different nationalities in the multinational Soviet state), personal problems, resentment at a failure by individuals to gain the recognition they fancied they deserved, and—finally—"psychic instability."

The last condition is that most generally employed as a catch-all

explanation by Soviet officials for the existence of dissidents. It is also the excuse frequently inventing dissidents in mental institutions.

Explicit

Andropov himself was about this strange theory of "delusions" and said: "It is a failure to conform to the endeavor to help, endeavor to help, endeavor to help to their delusions."

Dodder, in a separate analysis of the KGB chief's speech to these "delusions" of Andropov disease. In course, it long preceded the security chief both precision of such "delusions" despite the purges and in the pretense they can be "cured" by detention in an insane asylum.

As a matter of fact, the practice antedates the Revolution and was on used by the Czarist regime. It is astonishing, never

Andropov should a and publicly assert that to condemn the Soviet as Communism for, as it called in the Soviet Union, "illness and can be cured; psychological treatment, even more pretentious than the phony gene Trofim Lysenko during the part of the Stalinist era

Disturbing

Moreover, it is a symptom of the possibly anced mental condition (Soviet leaders that they feel it necessary to at public that discontent from human failing as a by political dissidence is merely on "delusion"—a example of the famous physicist Andrei Sakharov.

A further and far more analysis of this based on a study of "and psychic diseases." Soviet doctors and acade will be discussed in a sat column. But what is to if here is that, hard on of the Andropov speech, and two associates at L predicting that this K preach and practice "discontinued."

It has become such a national scandal, they've even Communist parties the Soviet Union are Moscow to end this back and when it is dropped be good for Moscow's up if the theory's best-kept rent exponent, Andropov dropped with it.

Paul Calls for Religious Freedom

Pontiff Issues Rights Appeal as 5th Synod of Bishops Ends

By Louis Fleming

ROME, Oct. 30.—With an appeal for religious freedom throughout the world, Pope Paul VI yesterday ended the fifth synod of bishops.

"There are many nations in which the right of individuals to religious freedom, the right of families to train their children, the right of religious communities to educate their own members is not respected or at least unjustly restricted," he said.

"Human rights should be respected by government leaders for the good of their nations," the Pope said.

The appeal responded to repeated expressions of concern from among the 204 bishops who have participated in this monthlong meeting. Most of these appeals for help have come from bishops in nations where their freedoms are curtailed, according to Archbishop Joseph Bernardin of Cincinnati, president of the U.S. Conference of Bishops.

Main Theme

But the Pope's appeal also was appropriate to the theme of this synod, which has dealt with catechesis, that is, the task of developing and enriching the faith of Church members. Government interference can make that task virtually impossible, the bishops were told.

The synod has shown a sense of urgency regarding the task of strengthening faith because of the world situation, marked by changing moral values, political controversy, and, in many areas, declining Church membership and an alienation of young people from Church activities.

The synod has served primarily to affirm the trend in Roman Catholic catechesis away from instruction centered on memory work by young people toward more emphasis on developing a faith that permeates all parts of life, especially that concerning social justice.

The message issued yesterday by the bishops sought a middle ground. It said the memorizing of fundamental Church materials will still be used but recognized the importance of giving witness to one's faith.

New Commitments

"One of the principal tasks of catechesis today is to encourage and sustain new forms of commitment, especially in the field of justice," the message said.

The message included two innovations. The bishops for the first time supported the right of common Catholics Christians, although this is to be restricted to



Associated Press.

Pope Paul talks with Paul Cardinal Munoz Vega of Quito, Ecuador, during beatification ceremonies in Vatican City yesterday for Brother Miguel Francisco Febres Cordero of Ecuador and Brother Mutien Marie Wiaux of Belgium.

instances deemed appropriate by the bishops concerned. The bishops also went beyond the usual emphasis on parish, family and school to support also small groups as an important element of strengthening faith.

The message issued yesterday was general in form. The more important document, an apostolic exhortation or other papal declaration, will be made in the next year or two. The bishops have

sent a summary of their work to serve as the basis of that statement to the Pope.

Pope Paul created the synod of bishops 12 years ago. The first synod was held in 1967. Initially it was thought that the regular convening of bishops might be a way to share the rule of the Church but Pope Paul has used the synod only for consultation.

© Los Angeles Times.

Polish Meeting

WARSAW, Oct. 30 (WP).—Polish party leader Edward Gierk met yesterday with Polish Roman Catholic Church leader Stefan Cardinal Wysynski. It was the first official contact between the two men since Mr. Gierk came to power in 1970.

In a communiqué yesterday, the Polish mass media said that "views were exchanged on very important national and Church matters which have a weighty significance for the unity of Poles in the work of shaping the well-being of the Polish People's Republic." It appeared that the two leaders discussed

national problems rather than Church-state affairs. Official sources said yesterday that the conversation was "not very concrete and did not touch on Church demands."

2 Brothers Beatified
VATICAN CITY, Oct. 30 (Reuters).—Pope Paul today beatified two members of the Christian Brothers' order, from Belgium and Ecuador, who dedicated their lives to teaching in a ceremony at St. Peter's Basilica. The beatification ceremony normally precedes canonization in the Roman Catholic Church.

The Belgian brother, Mutien Marie Wiaux, born in 1841, spent more than 50 years teaching music and drawing. Brother Miguel Francisco Febres Cordero, born in Cuenca, Ecuador, in 1884, suffered from polio as a child and dedicated most of his life to writing religious teaching books.

Millie Miller, 54, MP for Labor, Dies in London

LONDON, Oct. 30 (AP).—Millie Miller, 54, a Labor party member of Parliament, died last night after a long illness, it was announced today.

The death of the first-term legislator increases the Labor government's overall deficit in the House of Commons to five. With the help of the Liberal party, however, Prime Minister James Callaghan can command a small majority.

Mrs. Miller was born in Ilford, North, just outside London, by a mere 718 votes, making it vulnerable to a Conservative party challenger when a new election is held.

Rasha Plavovic

BELOGRADE, Oct. 30 (UPI).—Rasha Plavovic, 78, Yugoslavia's most distinguished actor and a pioneer director of plays in Serbo-Croatian, died yesterday after a long illness.

J. Glenn Gray

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Oct. 30 (UPI).—Philosopher J. Glenn Gray, 64, who supervised English translations of the contemporary German philosopher Martin Heidegger for Harper & Row publishers, died yesterday of a heart attack at his home.

Joshua Berman

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 30 (AP).—Joshua Berman, 12, the son of comedian Shelley Berman, died of cancer yesterday at Cedars-Sinai Hospital, a family spokesman said.

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Luckily there are some things around Switzerland that are worth flying to Switzerland for.

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The French, Moving Toward Elections, Debate Their Basic Political Structures

By Jim Hoagland

PARIS (WP)—The cameras had finished grinding for the day and extras in a war movie being filmed in southern France began to assemble for dinner in a makeshift canteen. Their separate shifts formed a tribute to what Charles de Gaulle called the eternal France.

The extras all came from the same village of the Midi. Most were friends. They had been assigned roles as officers or enlisted men on the basis of height and looks.

But as they moved across the dining room the villagers playing French Army officers grouped together at the same table. Across the room, the "enlisted" extras automatically sat down together.

It is a story Frenchmen tell about themselves, in their own blend of veneration and mistrust of the fables that have sprung from other nationalities. It is a bitter-sweet story dedicated to France's thousand-year history of centralization, rigid class structures and excessive concern with authority.

Moment of Definition

The story comes out of the intense self-examination being conducted by the French as they approach one of the most crucial election campaigns in their recent history. Beyond the campaign, France is approaching a moment of definition as well as of choice.

That choice is framed by three decades of transformation that has passed unnoticed to many outside France. From a nation that proudly based its economy and its society on quality agriculture and small business, France has exploited Western Europe's most consistent rate of industrialization to grow into the world's fourth largest trading nation behind the United States, West Germany and Japan.

France today builds more cars than does West Germany. French consumer spending and per capita gross national product hover only slightly below the levels of the three other big manufacturing nations. French factory workers put in longer work weeks than laborers in the other Common Market countries, and last year they lost, proportionately, half as much time through strikes as U.S. workers.

These are statistics the government is proud to trumpet. There are others, from a different France, that are less pleasing to officials.

It is a France in which 60 per cent of the income taxes due the government are lost through a system of tax evasion and avoidance that is more or less tolerated by the government, according to economist Pierre Bury. Personal income taxes bring in less than 15 per cent of the revenues available to the government, which depends on a brutally regressive value-added sales tax system that hits workers and the poor hardest.

It is a France with a wide gap between rich and poor. The richest 10 per cent of the population absorb nearly a third of the after-tax income of the nation, while the poorest 10 per cent get one-fiftieth of the national income, according to a recent study of countries in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

In the broadest sense, France is conducting a national debate on these two sets of statistics. The country is seeking to determine if the political structures that have come down through its long history, and more particularly from Charles de Gaulle, are workable after the recent sweeping industrial changes. These changes have created a strong middle class channeled in consumer and social patterns that are more akin to other Western countries today than those of France three decades ago.

That middle class has yet to find the kind of centrist political expression which has emerged in other parts of Europe, where deeply entrenched class and political structures have responded to change.

The conflict of politicians and parties erupting in France has enveloped the larger debate and helped obscure its more precise formulation: Is there a social democracy struggling to emerge from the traditionally polarized French political system? Is there, in fact, the possibility—or the need—for the kind of managed capitalism that prevails in varying degrees in West Germany, Scandinavia and Britain?

The aloof aristocrat who inherited Gen. de Gaulle's position but not his grandeur, President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, feels there is. He argues that the rapid change in France has created a "floating" middle-class voters who want mild reforms in the system and whose interests are not represented by the ideological extremes that have dominated French politics in the past.

Electoral Strategy

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing is basing his electoral strategy for the March 1981 National Assembly elections around the conviction that France had to be governed by "the center." France no longer can afford to be cut in half by the struggle between parties dedicated to preserving or destroying the existing order of wealth and privilege, the President argues.

Most of France's other political

leaders remain unpersuaded, however. "Voters in France do not correspond to social conditions," said Michel Rocard, the Socialist party's top economic spokesman. "One-third of the manual laborers in France vote for the right wing. And one-third of the managerial class votes for the left today. Those who back the centrist notion are forgetting the terrific weight of history in France."

Rebuilt Party

An associate of Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac summed up the rightist view: "Look, that centrist stuff is hogwash. The only way to get through to French voters is to appeal directly to their emotions, to get them by the genitals or by the tear glands."

Mr. Chirac makes no secret of his intention to dominate the March elections and eventually the country by continuing to stoke the ideological fires that Mr. Giscard d'Estaing wants to consign to France's past.

"On one point, the Communists and I agree," Mr. Chirac recently told a Gaullist party conference. "You do not go halfway down the road to Communism."

Mr. Chirac has rebuilt the Gaullist party into a conventional political group by together by conservative ideology rather than the mystical appeal of Gen. de Gaulle. Mr. Chirac angrily resigned as Mr. Giscard d'Estaing's Prime Minister last year in a dispute over the President's hopes for a small opening to the left of the parliamentary coalition that has dominated the National Assembly since 1958.

Mr. Chirac thus is a clear threat from the right to Mr. Giscard d'Estaing's presidency. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing has told friends that Mr. Chirac poses a greater immediate danger to the French republic than do the French Socialists or the Communists, according to reliable reports.

The Communist reflects not only the bitter antagonism, if not hatred, the two men feel for each other but also casts a long shadow over the choices available to Mr. Giscard d'Estaing after the March elections. The configuration of the next National Assembly will be key evidence in their personal battle for vindication, the result of a tooth-and-claw fight for power by the four main parliamentary groups—the Communists, Socialists, Gaullists and Centrist supporters of Mr. Giscard d'Estaing.

It appears likely that the March voting will give Mr. Giscard d'Estaing a chance at fashioning a political center at the expense of the rightist and leftist blocs. But a fragmenting of those blocs, unless dealt with by creative statesmanship, could produce a period of uncertainty and tension and a quick return to the polls for a more highly polarized electoral battle.

Decisive Factor

The most decisive factor is almost certain to be the number of National Assembly seats captured by the Socialists, a politically and socially heterogeneous organization which has emerged from the murky political landscape the French call "the swamp" to become the largest party in France today.

"The swamp" occupies the space between the Communists and the Gaullists, who have been the durable poles of French politics since World War II, when they fought each other while fighting the occupying German Army. Each commands a one-fifth to one-fourth share of the popular vote, totals that are based largely on unexamined class loyalties and on the lingering aura of the parties' Resistance records.

The Socialist party was formed in 1971 from the remains of the center-left and leftist parties that Gen. de Gaulle displaced when he came to power in 1958. The Socialists could barely claim 15 per cent of the vote then. Today, national polls project a minimum 30-per-cent share of the electorate for the Socialists and some estimates range up to 40 per cent.

Moreover, the Socialists have won over a disproportionately large share of France's brightest young civil servants, parliamentarians and academics. "The barons of Gaullism were so afraid of being eliminated from power after the explosion of May, 1968, and after De Gaulle quit that they closed the organization in on itself," said 27-year-old Isabelle Monmestier, a disillusioned but still loyal Gaullist.

Electoral Pact

"Two things happened then," she added. "The young managers and intellectuals who had no decision-making power in the present and who had hopes for the future went over to the left. And Chirac came as an outsider to take the Gaullists away from the barons."

The Socialists also gained credibility through the Common Program electoral pact they signed with the Communists in 1972. Without committing themselves to radical measures, they built up their image as a party that stood for social justice and the working class. And they clearly drew much of their new organizational strength from young leftists who normally would have gone into the Communist party but

who instead went into the revitalized Marxist wing of the Socialists.

"We have been trying to deal with the Communist phenomenon in France in part by draining it of its new strength," a Socialist party strategist admitted. "You will always have a Communist party in France. The question is whether it will be weak or strong, Stalinist or moderate. Just keeping it in the ghetto, as the Gaullists and the Americans want to do, will never encourage the more moderate wing of the party to come out on top."

But the Communists seemingly chose to move back into the political ghetto last month by pushing negotiations on an updated version of the Common

Program to the breaking point. They have bitterly attacked the Socialist leaders, and particularly the party's secretary-general, François Mitterrand, for allegedly preparing to make a deal with Mr. Giscard d'Estaing for a center-left government after the elections.

The criticism has indirectly resurrected the image of Mr. Mitterrand as the Proteus of French politics, constantly changing shape as political circumstances alter. Mr. Mitterrand, who comes from an affluent and religious family, served both as colonial minister and interior minister during the worst days of the Fourth Republic. It was his willingness to oppose Gen. de Gaulle, rather than any fervid commitment to socialism, that

made him an important figure in the 1950s.

Both Socialists and Communists have suspended political cooperation while they feud over the terms of the joint campaign platform. Despite the bitterness of their attacks, they could patch together a limited electoral pact for the March balloting under which they would agree not to oppose each other in runoffs.

But enormous damage appears to have been done to the once-strong prospects of a Socialist-Communist coalition holding a working majority in the 490-member National Assembly and forcing Mr. Giscard d'Estaing to appoint a cabinet including Communists. The arithmetic of assembly seats appears to have replaced ideology as the key factor in

the immediate future by providing Mr. Giscard d'Estaing with more room to maneuver.

Opinion Polls

Public opinion polls conducted for some of the parties and for the Ministry of the Interior suggest that the Socialists will emerge as the largest party in the assembly with about 180 seats. The Gaullists should fall from their current 173 members to between 120 to 140. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing will be able to muster slightly more than 100 Centrists and Independents, while the Communists should win about 75 seats.

With no clear majority for any group and a projected loss of electoral authority for the Gaul-

lists, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing should be able to choose between trying to keep afloat a technocratic cabinet based on his current Prime Minister, economist Raymond Barre, or making a serious effort to split off the moderate wing of the Socialists and form a center-left government with them.

Moreover, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing is reported by French political sources to be preparing a major change in the electoral laws that will eliminate the present winner-take-all district voting for the National Assembly and bring in a proportional representation system that would strengthen the centrist parties. Those changes would not come into effect until the next assembly elections, which would normally be held five years after the balloting next year but could be called much sooner.

Whoever wins next year "will have to face up to the fact that the 30 years of prosperity we had until 1973 are over," said Socialist Michel Rocard. The next government "will have to digest an average-sized economic crisis, at the least, and try to survive in that crucial first year."

Unions, which have held back on wage demands in the last year in part to provide a calm period that would help the left in the

elections, will be under no such constraint after the March voting. And while the government is running up to boost its chances, a re-election will be due soon after the balloting.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing has chosen to run a budget deficit something he solemnly promised not to do, just to keep the stag machinery running this year. It has cut back sharply on government investment and decided to accept a meager 3 per cent growth rate for this year by deferring strongly inflationary measures until after the March elections. It has made no serious moves to solve the rising level of unemployment, which is being pushed up by draconian efforts to hold down imports and thus keep the trade balance and the franc stable in the short run.

"It is better to win with an empty till than to lose with half-full one," said one of Mr. Giscard d'Estaing's political advisers. "Either the Gaullists, the Socialists may be in a position to bring down the government that he forms out of the March returns, but you have to wonder if they will dare take that responsibility and conduct France to a new round of ideological warfare."

Concepts Questioned

Current NATO Crisis Complex, Deep-Rooted

By Drew Middleton

NEW YORK (NYT)—"They ought to call this outfit the North Atlantic Crisis Organization, not the North Atlantic Treaty Organization," remarked a disgruntled staff officer recently in Washington.

He was alluding to several serious problems besetting the Atlantic alliance—high-level concern over its present and future strength in relation to Soviet forces, criticism of the U.S. concept of NATO, and the serious differences among members over how the West's military strength be deployed in the event of war.

The alliance has surmounted many other crises in its 28-year history; but the consensus in Washington and West European capitals is that the current one is so complex, its roots so deep, that a major effort will be required to get NATO back on track.

Gen. George Brown, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, gave a pessimistic overall view of the alliance in a recent speech. NATO, he said, can no longer rely on nuclear predominance and superior quality of its conventional forces to counterbalance "the massive Soviet conventional forces in Europe."

Deficiencies Persist

Even if modest increases in the members' defense budgets are attained, he said, there are still "acknowledged deficiencies" within the alliance.

Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., has also stirred concern by reopening discussion of an issue that has lain dormant for more than a quarter of a century. Is the American goal, he asks, to have Europe responsible for its own defense, or does it intend to be permanently involved in European military affairs?

The question recalls NATO's infancy, when Dwight D. Eisenhower, the first Supreme Allied Commander, estimated in 1950 that Europe would be able to defend itself in "three or four years" and "our people can go home."

The Carter administration, at the NATO conference in May, introduced some initiatives for strengthening the alliance, which involve integration of the air, defense, communications, logistics and research and development programs. But Sen. Hart argues that if these measures are taken, "it may be very difficult to disentangle American and European defense without damaging both, and 'restricting future options' as well."

Permanent integration of the West's defense may be desirable, the senator conceded, but this would constitute a reversal of the United States' original goals of a Europe strong enough to protect itself.

"If such a policy change is to be made," he said, "it should be made openly, rather than as an aftereffect of programs presented as mere military improvements."

Cue to Disputes

Such discussions of NATO's military goals and of the American concept of the alliance give a cue to some bitter disputes in the U.S. military establishment over the manner in which the alliance now uses its present resources.

Gen. John Vogt, a retired NATO air commander in Central Europe, wrote recently, for example, that the alliance's front-line units, which would take the shock of any Soviet attack, are "badly deployed for a true forward defense of NATO territory." He also asserted that the headquarters organization would require "weeks of warning and preparation" before it could function effectively in war.

Writing in a policy paper for the Atlantic Council, Gen. Vogt said deficiencies of this kind were "not widely known or recognized outside the military community." Steven Canby, a U.S. Air Force reserve officer, charged in a recent paper that the United States was bringing the wrong tactics approach to the defense against a Soviet attack.

In its planning, he charged, Air Force was still predominate in its operations using heavy firepower, such as those in Vietnam. In so doing, he contended, it was ignoring the fact that European terrain and conditions lend themselves more readily to fast armor and maneuver operations.

The British Air Force Chief of Staff, Lord Stirrup, also noted, in a recent paper, that the American approach, which British think implies that forces should look down upon battle rather than coordinate operations with those of ground forces.

Moreover, he said, the RAR to a certain extent the German Air Force question heavy U.S. reliance on technology, "finding it overly operationally uncertain unnecessarily restrictive." result, he contended, is inflexibility rather than the desired flexibility.

Mr. Canby, like Gen. Vogt, a number of students of European military strategy, also is critical of NATO's deployment of forces. He particularly objects to the stationing of an American brigade with the Northern Army Group in Germany. The brigade presence there, he asserts, reflects the false premise that American reinforcements are "crucial to defense of Europe."

"They are not, and even if United States were contiguous Europe, the U.S. could not provide sufficient reinforcements," he said. He believes that a "reduction of the burden of defense fall to the European member the alliance and that consequently 'NATO needs solution provide divisions on the one hand and on the other hand strategy agree that the current disputes have assumed added importance because of what I Brown called the 'sharply' trend in Soviet military capability."

On Oct. 10 the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Brent Scowcroft, commented that "there is a recognition that we do not have a clear conventional forces to a Warsaw Pact penetrator Europe with nonnuclear force."

One reason for this assessment is the steady buildup of Soviet forces in Central Europe. Strength of each of its mechanized rifle divisions for example, has increased from 10,500 to 13,500 men and that of arm divisions from 9,000 to 11,000.

There is also evidence Moscow's East European allies spending more on defense. The Soviet Union recently presented to congressional Joint Chiefs Committee showed that more the gross national product each country in the region going for defense-related items.

U.K. Using Comput. To Find Fingerprints

LONDON, Oct. 30 (Reuters)—British police have begun to use a new computer system to identify criminals from fingerprints within hours of a crime.

The British force is the first in Europe to introduce the developed computerized program which can bring up on television screens the fingerprints of criminals to be matched with those found at the scene of a crime.



Recent editions of the Beirut newspaper An-Nahar have white space where censors ordered material cut.

No Signs It Will End Soon

Censorship in Beirut: Arbitrary, Unpredictable

By Thomas W. Lippman

BEIRUT (WP)—The headline in the French-language newspaper L'Orient-Le Jour was certainly intriguing. "Four young people kidnapped and slain near Alek," it said.

Readers who wanted to know more were out of luck. The article that would have run beneath that headline was suppressed by the censor, and only white space appeared where the news would have been. "Situation in the south at a standstill," said the leftist daily As Saïr in its leading front-page headline. At the time, however, the government was making daily promises about the deployment of the army into southern Lebanon, so that article, too, was stricken, although the headline remained.

The English-language daily Ike gave a big play to an article headed "Hussein-PLO Polemic Resumes." The first half reported a statement by King Hussein of Jordan that Palestinians not associated with the Palestine Liberation Organization might represent the Palestinian people at a Geneva peace conference.

'PLO Hits Back'

The second part, under the heading "PLO Hits Back," presumably contained the PLO response, but there again the reader was left to wonder. Censorship of the press has become a fact of life here in a capital that once had the most outspoken press in the Arab world. Readers have become accustomed to white spaces in Lebanese newspapers and gaping holes in the pages of foreign magazines and papers where offending items have been clipped out. Editors, intellectuals and even officials of the Ministry of Information complain about it, but the government shows no sign of lifting the censorship.

Censorship was imposed early this year, shortly after the Syrian-dominated Arab peace-keeping force moved into Beirut and ended the civil war. The theory was that the press had contributed to the war by emphasizing the country's religious and political differences and by importing radical foreign ideologies, so some guidance was necessary. The censorship is administered not by the Ministry of Information but by the National Security Agency, reportedly directed by an officer installed by the Syrians.

Editors complain that, in practice, the censorship is arbitrary and unpredictable, and that some newspapers are allowed more freedom than others. "It's completely absurd," said an editor at An-Nahar, Lebanon's most respected Arabic paper. "It all depends on the mood of the censor, or on which team is on duty that day."

He cited the story of the four murders near the mountain town of Alek. Everyone in Beirut knew what had happened: Four young members of one of the

Christian-rightist militias ventured into territory dominated by the Druse sect and were murdered, apparently in retaliation for the deaths of two Druses the week before.

That is the kind of story that inflames emotions here, and the censors killed it—except in the French-language paper Le Réveil ("The Awakening"), which is published and protected by the Christian party to which the four victims belonged.

'Effectiveness Unknown'

GAO Study Says Army Mishandles Poison Gas

By Norman Kempster

WASHINGTON—The Army has been so lax in caring for its stockpile of poison gas armaments that no one really knows if the weapons would work in combat, the General Accounting Office has reported.

"Lack of maintenance could seriously compromise U.S. retaliatory capabilities," the GAO, a congressional watchdog agency, stated.

The GAO report urged the Army to conduct, as soon as possible, a special testing program to find out which gas shells and grenades are serviceable. Present inspection techniques are so defective that "the true condition of the stockpile is unknown," the GAO stated.

The report also called on the Army to improve its maintenance of weapons found to be useful. A 1925 Geneva protocol—ratified by the United States 50 years later, in 1975—prohibits the first use of chemical and biological weapons. However, the agreement does not outlaw possession of such arms or their use in retaliation for a gas attack by an enemy.

The Pentagon contends that the Soviet Union has built up a huge stockpile of chemical weapons, possibly giving the Soviet Union a substantial advantage in any prospective non-nuclear confrontation.

In a statement submitted to the House Armed Services Committee in February, the Army said, "The Soviets are so immersed in chemical weaponry, tactics, doctrine, equipment and personnel, and so much of their training centers around the use of lethal agents that it would be odd, from a military standpoint, if they did not employ them [in a non-nuclear attack]."

Their offensive chemical capability dwarfs ours to the point that they would be throwing away a possibly decisive advantage by not using chemical weapons. Our own offensive chemical weapon arsenal, while not puny, is at this point probably not a sufficient deterrent."

Despite the Pentagon's concern about Soviet chemical warfare preparations, the Army has been reducing its gas supplies since the Geneva protocol was ratified two years ago.

"The Army has prepared a long-range plan for eventually disposing of the entire existing stockpile of lethal chemical munitions and agents," the GAO stated. "The Army has spent over \$19 million to demilitarize and dispose of some munitions and agents, and if the remaining stockpile is disposed of, it may spend \$440 million to \$670 million more."

"The Army should determine its overall needs before demilitarizing and disposing of additional usable stocks... The Army may be premature in basing its long-range plans on the premise that the entire chemical stockpile will be disposed of."

The GAO urged the Army to stop disposing of usable gas weapons "until stockpile requirements have been defined."

The Pentagon hopes to replace existing chemical weapons—which contain lethal gas that can kill if it accidentally seeps out of its container—with more sophisticated "binary" arms that consist of two chemicals that are relatively harmless if kept separate but form a deadly gas when mixed. However, this program has not been approved by Congress.

Los Angeles Times

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BANCA DELLA SVIZZERA ITALIANA BANCA NAZIONALE DEL LAVORO BANCO DI ROMA
BANK OF AMERICA INTERNATIONAL THE BANK OF BERMUDA, LTD.
BANK GUTZWILLER, KURT, BUNGENER (OVERSEAS) BANK JULIUS BAER INTERNATIONAL
THE BANK OF KUWAIT AND THE MIDDLE EAST K.S.C. BANK LEU INTERNATIONAL LTD. BANK MEES & HOPE NV
BANK MORGAN LABOUCHERE N.Y. THE BANK OF TOKYO (HOLLAND) N.Y. BANKERS TRUST INTERNATIONAL
BANQUE ARABE ET INTERNATIONALE D'INVESTISSEMENT (B.A.I.I.) BANQUE BRUXELLES LAMBERT S.A.
BANQUE EUROPEENNE DE TOKYO BANQUE FRANCAISE DU COMMERCE EXTERIEUR
BANQUE FRANCAISE DE CREDIT INTERNATIONAL LTD. BANQUE GENERALE DU LUXEMBOURG S.A.
BANQUE DE L'INDOCHINE ET DE SUEZ BANQUE INTERNATIONALE A LUXEMBOURG S.A.
BANQUE LOUIS DREYFUS BANQUE NATIONALE DE PARIS BANQUE DE NEUFLEZE, SCHLUMBERGER, MALLET
BANQUE DE PARIS ET DES PAYS-BAS BANQUE POPULAIRE SUISSE S.A. LUXEMBOURG BANQUE ROTHSCILD
BANQUE DE L'UNION EUROPEENNE BANQUE VERNES ET COMMERCIALE DE PARIS BANQUE WORMS
BARCLAYS BANK INTERNATIONAL BARING BROTHERS & CO. H. ALBERT DE BARY & CO. N.Y.
BAYERISCHE HYPOTHEKEN- UND WECHSEL-BANK BAYERISCHE LANDESBANK GROSZENTRALE
BAYERISCHE VEREINSBANK BERGEN BANK BERLINER HANDELS- UND FRANKFURTER BANK
BLYTH EASTMAN DILLON & CO. BREISACH PINSCHOP SCHOELLER
CAISSE CENTRALE DES BANQUES POPULAIRES CAISSE DES DEPOTS ET CONSIGNATIONS CAZENOVE & CO.
CENTRALE RABOBANK CHRISTIANIA BANK OG KREDITKASSE CITICORP INTERNATIONAL GROUP
CLARIDEN BANK COMMERZBANK COMPAGNIE MONEGASQUE DE BANQUE CONTINENTAL ILLINOIS
COUNTY BANK CREDIT CHIMIQUE CREDIT COMMERCIAL DE FRANCE
CREDIT INDUSTRIEL D'ALSACE ET DE LORRAINE CREDIT INDUSTRIEL ET COMMERCIAL CREDIT LYONNAIS
CREDIT DU NORD CREDITO ITALIANO (UNDERWRITERS) S.A. DAI-ICHI KANGYO BANK NEDERLAND N.Y.
RICHARD DAUS & CO. DEN DANSEK BANK DEN NORSKE CREDITBANK DG BANK
DEUTSCHE GROSZENTRALE DEUTSCHE GENOSSENSCHAFTSBANK
—DEUTSCHE KOMMUNALBANK— THE DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SINGAPORE
DILLON, READ OVERSEAS CORPORATION DRESDNER BANK EUROIMMOBILIARE S.P.A.
FINACOB FIRST BOSTON (EUROPE) FIRST CHICAGO COMPAGNIE EUROPEA INTERMOBILIARE
FRAB-BANK INTERNATIONAL FUJI INTERNATIONAL FINANCE ROBERT FLEMING & CO.
GROSZENTRALE UND BANK DER OSTERREICHISCHEN SPARKASSEN GOLDMAN SACHS INTERNATIONAL CORP.
GREENSHIELDS HAMBROS BANK HESSISCHE LANDESBANK HILL SAMUEL & CO.
INTERUNION-BANQUE ISTITUTO BANCARIO SAN PAOLO DI TORINO JARDINE FLEMING & COMPANY
KIDDER, PEABODY INTERNATIONAL KJØBENHAVNS HANDELSBANK KLEINWORT, BENSON
KREDITBANK N.Y. KREDITBANK S.A. LUXEMBOURGEOISE
KUHNS, LOEB & CO. INTERNATIONAL KUWAIT FOREIGN TRADING CONTRACTING & INVESTMENT CO. (S.A.K.)
KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CO. S.A.E. "KIFCO" KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT CO. S.A.K.
KUWAIT INVESTMENT COMPANY (S.A.K.) LAZARD BROTHERS & CO. LAZARD FRERES ET CIE
LLOYDS BANK INTERNATIONAL LOEB RHOADES INTERNATIONAL
LONDON MULTINATIONAL BANK (UNDERWRITERS) MANUFACTURERS HANOVER
MERRILL LYNCH INTERNATIONAL BANK MITSUBISHI BANK (EUROPE) S.A. MORGAN GRENFELL & CO.
MORGAN GUARANTY & PARTNERS MTBC & SCHRODER BANK S.A. NATIONAL BANK OF ABU DHABI
THE NATIONAL BANK OF KUWAIT S.A.K. NEDERLANDSCHE MIDDENSTANDSBANK N.Y.
NEDERLANDSCHE CREDITBANK N.Y. NESBITT, THOMSON NEUE BANK THENIKKO (LUXEMBOURG) S.A.
NOMURA EUROPE N.Y. NORDDEUTSCHE LANDESBANK OKASAN SECURITIES CO., LTD.
SAL OPPENHEIM JR. & CIE. ORION BANK PICTET INTERNATIONAL LTD. PIERSON, HELDRING & PIERSON N.Y.
PRIVATEBANKEN ROTHSCILD BANK AG N.M. ROTHSCILD & SONS SALOMON BROTHERS INTERNATIONAL
SANTWA BANK (UNDERWRITERS) J. HENRY SCHRODER WAGG & CO. SKANDINAVISKA ENSKILDA BANKEN
SMITH BARNET, HARRIS UPHAM & CO. SOCIETE BANCAIRE BARCLAYS (SUISSE) SA
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SOCIETE GENERALE (FRANCE) BANK SOCIETE PRIVEE DE GESTION FINANCIERE
SOCIETE SEQUANAISE DE BANQUE SOGEN-SWISS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
STRAUSS, TURNBULL & CO. SUMITOMO FINANCE INTERNATIONAL SVENSKA HANDELSBANKEN
TRADE DEVELOPMENT BANK TRADITION INTERNATIONAL S.A. TRINKAUS & BURKHARDT
UNION DE BANQUES ARABES ET FRANCAISES—U.B.A.F. VEREINS-UND WESTBANK J. VONTOBEL & CO.
M.M. WARBURG-BRINCKMANN, WITZ & CO. S.G. WARBURG & CO. LTD. WARDLEY
WESTDEUTSCHE LANDESBANK WOBACO INVESTMENTS I.M. ICHI INTERNATIONAL (NEDERLAND) N.Y.
GROSZENTRALE

October 11, 1977.

Chicago Options Table

Economic Scene

Continued from Page 9.

Professional commission in foreign markets to the actors abroad by the U.S. State Dept.

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Uromarket

Continued from Page 9.

Market rates even taking account the heavy ...

U.S. Leads Easily

Despite that handicap, the United States remains the largest securities market.

Activity Levels

Market Values

Oct. 28 Oct. 29

Oct. 30 Oct. 31

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A Week of Decisions on Baseball's New Class of Free Agents

By Murray Chass

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (NYT).—Armed with the knowledge that wealthy free agents helped the Yankees win the championship and helped all teams set a major league attendance record, baseball's 26 club owners checked their checkbooks this weekend to find out how many millions of dollars they have to spend on the second class of free agents.

The members of that class—totaling 88—will find out Friday which teams they might graduate to. For how much, they'll learn when they begin negotiating.

Last year 25 free agents placed themselves on the market and wound up collecting just about \$28 million.

More than half of that group were considered quality players; not so this year. Of the 39 major leaguers already established as free agents, barely a dozen could be classified as quality players.

Topping the list, and therefore bound to be the object of the highest bidders' affection, are Larry Hise and Lyman Bostock, of Minnesota, and Rickie Zisk and Oscar Gamble, Chicago White Sox, all outfielders; and Rich Gossage, Pittsburgh, and Rose Grimsley, Baltimore, pitchers.

Mike Torres, the Yankee pitcher who won two World Series games, also could be high on the draft list if he fails to sign a new contract with the Yankees in the next couple of days. He has until midnight Wednesday to declare his intentions.

In planning their future wealth and place of employment, these and other free agents might consider the experiences of the first class of free agents.

Tumult and Injuries

Reggie Jackson, the highest paid member of the class at \$2.9 million, spent an entire season in turmoil with the Yankees, not all of his own doing. Don Gullett (\$1,900,000) often was injured and missing from the Yankee pitching rotation. Bobby Grich (\$1,650,000) and Joe Rudi (\$2.3 million) missed most of the season for California with injuries.

Then there was Wayne Garland, Cleveland's \$2.5-million pitcher who was hurt not physically but in his record, which plummeted from 20-7 to 13-19. He spoke most candidly about the part of free agency that is not so glamorous.

"I felt pressure the whole year," said Garland, who nevertheless finished in the American League's top three in games started (38) and games completed (21). "I think I'll feel pressure the whole year."

10 years I'll be with the Indians. It eased off from what it was the first two and a half months of the season, but it'll always be there. People will always bring it up.

Early in the season it was tough to come to the ballpark. The fans got on me. They kept bringing up the money. I was pressing. I had expected it, but I thought I could handle it. But the pressure was so tough I couldn't believe it. "I'm lucky I kept my sanity."

This year's free agents fall into three categories: 33 players who played the 1977 season without a new contract, 19 who played with one-year contracts and have served in the majors for six or more seasons, and the most obscure group, 34 who had major-league experience in 1976 but were assigned outright to minor-league clubs prior to last March and never signed new major-league contracts in 1977.

Of the 22 players in the first group (11 belonging to Minnesota), 20 were major-leaguers this past season. Among that number are Zisk, Hise, Bostock, Gossage, Dave Kingman (Yankee designated hitter), George Medich (Met pitcher), Bruce Boche (Cleveland outfielder), Rawley Eastwick (St. Louis relief pitcher) and Mike Marshall (Texas relief pitcher).

The second group could expand in number by Wednesday because 15 players have until then to inform the Players Association whether they want to be free agents. Besides Torres, some of the players in that bunch are Gary Nolan (California pitcher), Bill Bonham (Cubs pitcher), Willie Wood (White Sox pitcher), Jerry Grote (Los Angeles catcher) and Willie McCovey (San Francisco first baseman), who was a free agent last year.

Among the 19 six-year players



Lyman Bostock



Larry Hise

who already have opted for free agency are Gamble, Grimsley, Elliott Maddox (Baltimore outfielder), Carlos May (California designated hitter), Ron Blum-

berg (forgotten Yankee designated hitter), Elrod Hendricks (Yankee catcher), Mike Jorgensen (Oakland first baseman), Terry Forster (Pittsburgh pitcher)

er) and Ray Fosse (Seattle catcher).

If the number of free agents remains at 88, each club would be eligible to sign four players, twice the number of last year. However, if the total goes to 97 or more, the quota for each team will be five.

No matter what the quotas, a club can sign as many players as it loses to free agency, which means the Twins could sign 11 players. However, if Calvin Griffith, the penniless owner, wanted to spend that much money, he could have signed Hise, Bostock and some others and kept his team basically intact.

Griffith, interestingly, is one owner who foresees less spending this year than last. There has been so much talk in fact about spending less money or no money at all that Marvin Miller, the executive director of the Players Association, is concerned about a possible conspiracy among the owners.

"Like Money Was Water"

Griffith, for his part, said at one point last month that owners "are kicking themselves in the pants, a lot of them, for what they've spent and what it's ac-

complished for them. I look for re-entry this year not to be anywhere near like it was last year. They didn't know what to expect last year. They went out bidding like money was water. A lot have learned their lesson. High-priced players are not going to bring them a championship."

That, of course, was before the Yankees and their high-priced free agents won the championship. So much for that argument.

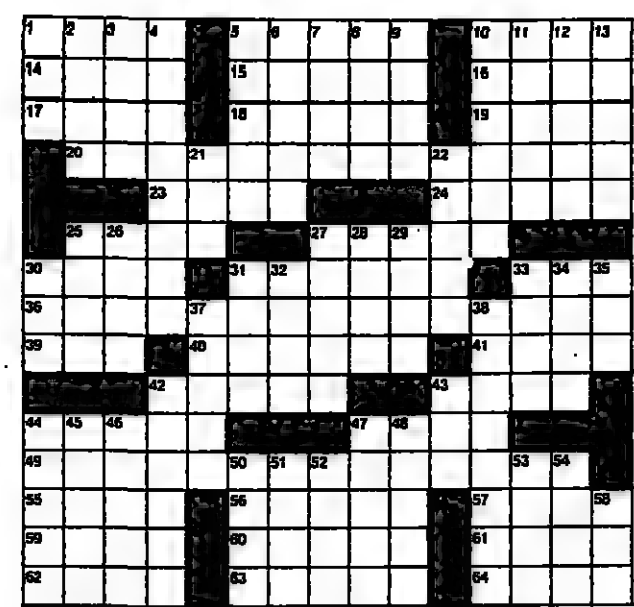
Furthermore, last year's free agents spoiled the idea that all that money would lessen their desire and incentive to play well. Of the 25, 12 had better years statistically than the previous season, three finished with approximately the same totals and three played in the majors after having spent 1976 in the minors. Of the six whose records weren't as good, Dick Allen quit after playing 54 games and Rudi and Grich were sidelined after approximately the same number of games. Nate Colbert did not play for anyone.

More Sports News On Page 15

DM BONDS

(Average Prices)

Australia 1-27	106.90
Australia 2-27	112
Australia 3-27	107.25
B.P. Comm. 2-27	108.50
City of Berlin 2-27	104.25
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16 Color of the
17 Onyx
18 "My
19 Three-six
20 Genesis phrase
(1:3)
24 Fleming et al.
24 Queen of
25 King's game
27 Have a yen for
28 Berlin-Rome
31 OK from orange
33 School for would-
be lrs.
36 Genesis phrase
(1:3)
39 Pismire
40 Remains
41 Soft French
42 Part of a Stein
line
43 Army car

DOWN

44 Celebration,
Italian style
47 River near Trier
49 Genesis phrase
(1:1)
50 Joe formation
56 Actress Terry
57 Epoch upon
epoch
59 Deserve
60 Unusually
61 Pact acronym
62 Parts of hoops
63 Polish anew
64 Put away

ACROSS

44 Celebration,
Italian style
47 River near Trier
49 Genesis phrase
(1:1)
50 Joe formation
56 Actress Terry
57 Epoch upon
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61 Pact acronym
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DOWN

1 Schkell play
2 N.Y. county
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6 Actor Fernando
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East
10 Swiss city, to
the French
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notable hymn
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cooked
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14 Author Shute
25 Bullocks
26 Baseball item
27 El Greco's
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WEATHER

ALABAMA... Clear
ALASKA... Clear
ARIZONA... Clear
ARKANSAS... Clear
CALIFORNIA... Clear
COLORADO... Clear
CONNECTICUT... Clear
DELAWARE... Clear
FLORIDA... Clear
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NEVADA... Clear
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NEW YORK... Clear
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OKLAHOMA... Clear
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PENNSYLVANIA... Clear
RHODE ISLAND... Clear
SOUTH CAROLINA... Clear
SOUTH DAKOTA... Clear
TENNESSEE... Clear
TEXAS... Clear
UTAH... Clear
Vermont... Clear
VIRGINIA... Clear
WASHINGTON... Clear
WEST VIRGINIA... Clear
WISCONSIN... Clear
WYOMING... Clear

Mutual Funds

Closing Prices, Oct. 28, 1977

Fund Name | **Price** | **% Chg.**

1. Fidelity Divd Growth 10.15 +0.15 +1.5%

2. Fidelity Divd Growth 10.15 +0.15 +1.5%

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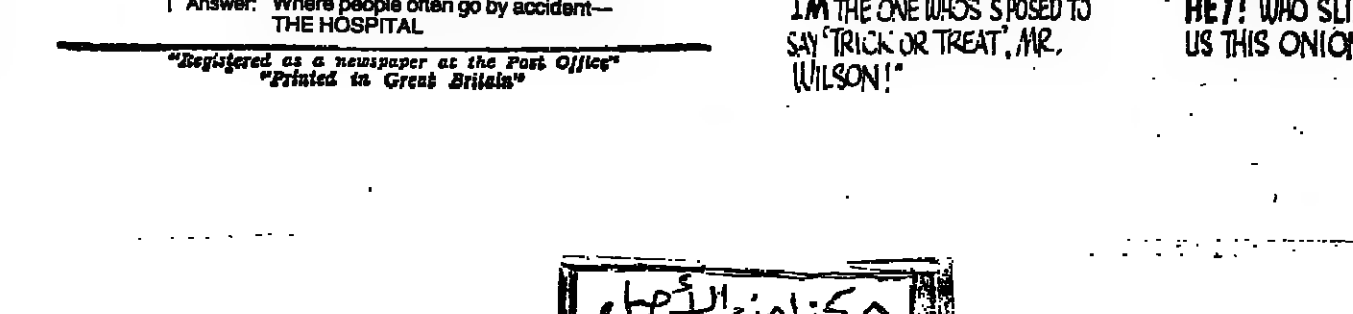
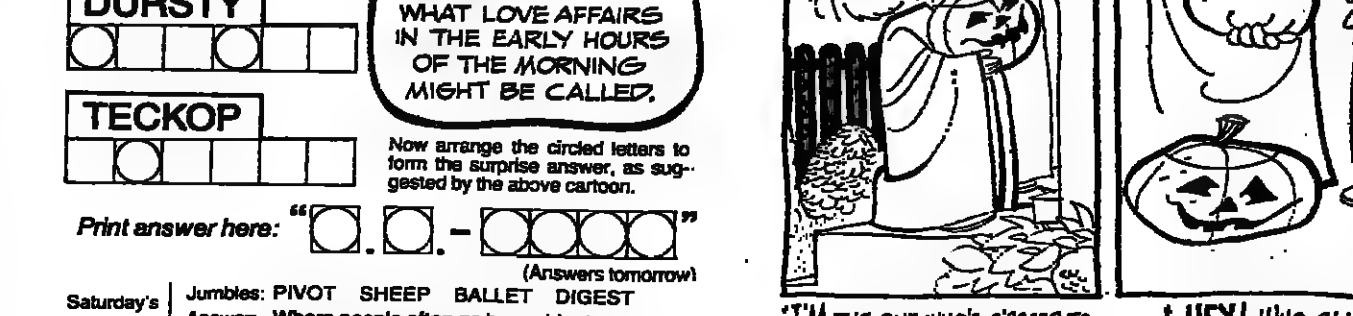
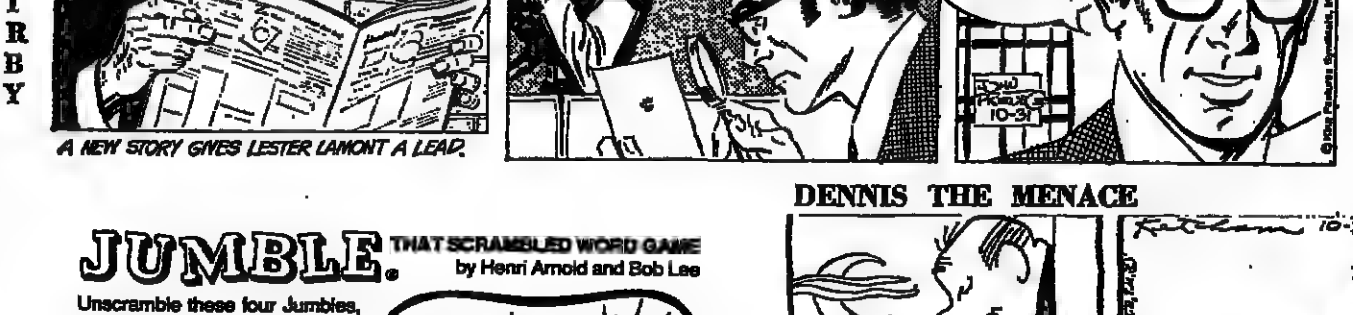
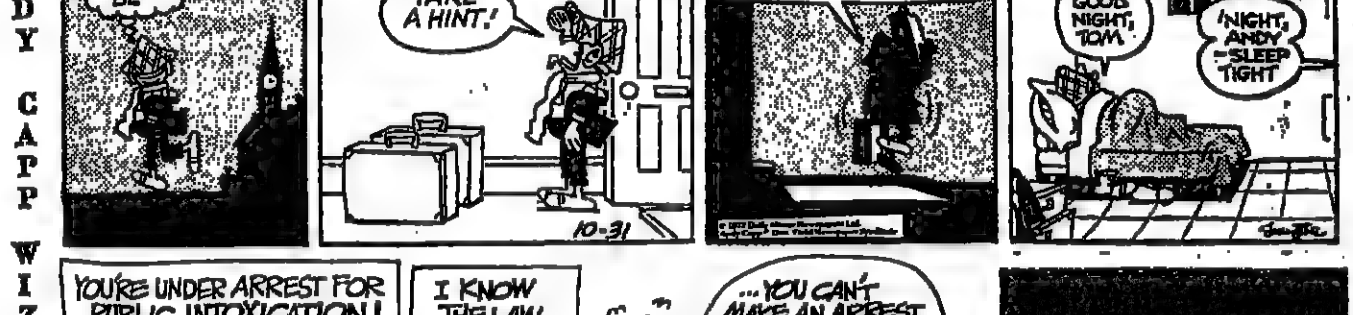
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BOOKS

THE DIARIES OF EVELYN WAUGH

Edited by Michael Dams. Little Brown. \$13. pp. 317.

Reviewed by Robert Kirsch

IN that chummy little world of Oxford and Cambridge students, interlocking family grids of publishing, church, the army, old boy networks, which flourished between the wars and is not yet quite dead, such a writer as Evelyn Waugh could be and was pumped up to an importance his slight work never really deserved. At his best, Waugh evoked that world, satirized it, and indeed as "The Diaries of Evelyn Waugh" edited by Michael Dams indicate, was one of the appalling, malicious, toxic characters who inhabited it. If you wish to experience the occasional cleverness ("All fates are 'worse than death,'" or, "We are all American at puberty; we die French") and are willing to pay the price of a tedious malice, constant drinking, hangovers and occasional indignation, an offensive anti-Americanism, a little bit of Semitic, a smug ignorance of almost everything outside his own circles, then this is your book.

With the success of his novel "Vile Bodies" and his job as a columnist on the Daily Mail (his natural level for all Graham Greene's proclaiming him "the greatest novelist of my generation"), he entered the new and fashionable social circles, the Mitfords, the Guinnesses, Diana Cooper. There is a period of name-dropping.

His war experiences are mildly interesting and his obvious notes for later writing (Peter Beatty: "He has three habitual gestures: one to press his upper teeth with his thumbs as though they were false and loose; one to rub hands together as though were treading; the other to an imaginary beard") are to academic critics.

Waugh is bearable when able to apply the same far standards to himself as he to others. This is rare in his intractability, his harsh cruelty, almost always aimed for others, and even defenseless: Churchill's grr Winston is called "a hole boy with a head too big for body." A target too trifling such a big gun as Waugh might think. But this is put down others, graduation insistent enough to be called at least Waugh was aware of it. He speaks of "vent to peevish and other complaints about modern times escape business—that is, a safe way to Ireland."

Of course, it and all his traits went along with him 1946: "We traveled in a dirty, ill-lit carriage to Liv and boarded the boat there was a tang of it in the dining room. The St. George's Channel persons' wives covered with mustel badges, priests, the commercial travelers. This a number of Jews, press tax evaders."

His anti-Semitism is one of a host of stupidities, which Waugh main unexamined as an armor of the humanistic, sentimental, passionate qualities he saw opposite of his own misanthropic. His father was a writer, a successful, pleasant, sociable and gay man. His own distant Freudian explanations explain why he turned out father's opposite. The may form his own evil. That sort of case study engage some readers and them over the many dreary.

Robert Kirsch is a book reviewer for the Los Angeles Times.

CHESS

By Robert K

NEW YORK (NYT).—The question that arises again and again in a wide variety of positions is whether it is worth the loss of a tempo to acquire the bishop pair.

Aiding scale of values is involved. In close positions, the loss of a tempo may not mean much, but then again, having the two bishops for the opponent's bishop and knight in such a position may not mean much, either.

On the other hand, the power of a pair of bishops in a semi-open position is undeniable, but the tempo spent in gaining them may grant the opponent an enduring initiative.

It was this second case that produced the central conflict in my game with John Fedorowicz, national junior champion, in the 11th round of the recent United States Championship Tournament in Menlo Park, Ohio.

His 6... Q-N3 was an old move, recently attracting sporadic attention, that pretty much forced the white B-N3 away from its central post, although the black queen—impeding a later advance of the Q-N7—was not well posted at Q-N3.

The most favored white continuation would have been 11 Q-N3, Q-B3; 12 P-B4, but I experimented with the immediate 11 P-B4, allowing Fedorowicz to gain the bishop pair by 11... P-B3; 12 B-N3, B-Q3; 13 B-N3, B-B3; 14 N-B3, N-B3, which gives Black an easy, problem-free game, B-B3.

With 13 Q-B3, I intended to use my lead in development and the slight weakening of the black king position by 11... P-B4 to create a mating attack. It was not obvious what the best defensive set-up might have been; had Fedorowicz tried 13... N-N3; 14 P-B3, P-B3; 15 B-B3, B-B3, I would have had considerable attacking chances with 17 B-B3, B-Q3; 18 B-B3, B-B3; 19 B-B3, B-B3; 20 Q-N4, followed by 21 N-K4.

His 13... Q-B3 made sure that I could not achieve an early P-B3; even after 10... N-E3, I would only have ruined my position with 17 P-B3; P-B3; 18 P-B3, B-N4, after which 19 B-N3?

SICILIAN DEFENSE

White: 1 P-E4, 2 N-K3, 3 P-Q4, 4 N-B3, 5 N-Q3, 6 B-KN5, 7 N-N3, 8 B-Q3, 9 O-O, 10 K-R1, 11 P-B4, 12 B-N3, 13 Q-R5, 14 Q-B3, 15 R-K3.

Black: 16 N-Q1, 17 R-N3, 18 N-Q2, 19 N-K3, 20 P-N3, 21 N-K3, 22 P-K3, 23 N-P, 24 Q-N4, 25 R-R3, 26 R-P, 27 Q-RP, 28 N-B3-N4, 29 N-B3, 30 N-Rch.

Black: 16 N-Q1, 17 R-N3, 18 N-Q2, 19 N-K3, 20 P-N3, 21 N-K3, 22 P-K3, 23 N-P, 24 Q-N4, 25 R-R3, 26 R-P, 27 Q-RP, 28 N-B3-N4, 29 N-B3, 30 N-Rch.

Resigns

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MYMUG

ROPEA

DURSTY

TECKOP

WHAT LOVE AFFAIRS IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING MIGHT BE CALLED.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "O. O. - O. O. O. O."

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: PIVOT SHEEP BALLET DIGEST
Answer: Where people often go by accident—THE HOSPITAL

"Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office"
"Printed in Great Britain"

INTERNATIONAL
Herald Tribune
 Published with The New York Times and The Washington Post
 PARIS, OCTOBER, 1977

FOCUS ON MEXICO—1977

Search for Unity and Stability Is Seeking an End To a History of Coups, Crises and Confrontations

President Gives Priority To Putting House in Order

By Alan Riding

MEXICO CITY (UPI)—Less than one year ago, Mexico was suffering its most serious institutional crisis in four decades, yet today the country is again enjoying political stability, leaving rumors of military coups and peasant uprisings well behind.

As the architect of this recovery of confidence, President José López Portillo, who took office last Dec. 1, has tried to shape a national consensus out of the groups that were both antagonized and favored by his controversial predecessor, Luis Echeverría. The rhetoric of confrontation has been replaced by a quiet search for unity. And despite setbacks and difficulties, Mr. López Portillo appears to be succeeding.

The mere fact that he visited Spain last week reflects his belief that the worst is over. Having dedicated himself exclusively to domestic economic and political problems, President López Portillo can now enjoy Mexico's reconciliation with the "mother country" after its 57-year boycott of the Franco regime.

But in contrast to President Echeverría, who constantly traveled abroad promoting a "new world economic order," Mr. López Portillo seems more concerned with bringing about economic order at home and establishing the basis for solid development for the rest of this century.

As a former finance minister and a man of little previous political experience, however, he has had to spend much of his first year in office trying to build a political base for himself and assert his authority over a country used to strong presidential rule.

Relief

When he took office, he immediately benefited from the widespread relief at seeing President Echeverría step down. But he inherited many key Echeverría aides and, in order to counter their influence, he also turned to supporters of former President Gustavo Díaz Ordaz, who had been publicly vilified during the last administration. Only the main economic posts were filled by his own small technocratic group.

The first six months of the new administration were consumed by Mr. Echeverría's efforts to retain his influence over domestic

politics and the vicious public battle between his group and Mr. Díaz Ordaz's followers.

On the surface, at least, Mr. López Portillo stayed out of the conflict—he even stated recently that he was closer to Mr. Echeverría than to Mr. Díaz Ordaz—although his recruitment of the Díaz Ordaz team undoubtedly helped reassure conservatives and weaken the influence of his immediate predecessor.

The equation was solved literally by diplomacy. Mr. Díaz Ordaz, despised by the left because of his brutal repression of the 1968 student movement, was sent as Mexico's first ambassador to Spain since 1937. Mr. Echeverría, traveling the world with much fanfare as president of his own Third World Studies Center, was appointed world Third World ambassador in the hope of bringing him under the control of the Foreign Ministry. When this failed, he was sent to Paris as ambassador to Unesco, with clear orders to stay there. Early in August, Mr. Díaz Ordaz resigned his post under pressure and, in exchange, the loyal Echeverrista president of Congress, Augustus Gómez Villanueva, was dumped and sent as ambassador to Rome, replacing Mr. Echeverría's former press secretary, Fausto Zapata, who was left out in the cold.

An even tougher coup against the Echeverristas came in late September when the former agrarian reform minister, Félix Barra García, was arrested and charged with corruption. The government insisted there was no political motivation for prosecuting the former minister, but some feel it is more than a coincidence that Mr. Barra was not only close to President Echeverría but was also the executor of his controversial agrarian policy that led to peasant unrest and massive expropriations of private farms.

Time

The nervousness caused by the political fighting was partly the main reason for conservative resistance in giving full support to the new government in the early months of the year. Businessmen wanted the new government to wipe out all traces of Echeverría administration, but in policies and personalities. By the new President was still tugging his feet and shying away from a premature confrontation with this predecessor, and he allowed time, as his most effective political instrument to take a course.

By Sept. 1, in his first State of the Union address, the 57-year-old President at last seemed to charge. "My only commitment is to the people of Mexico," he said. "I will not accept other pressures. In matters of responsibility, only I have decided, now decide and will decide." To rebuild the consensus interests—which has been a secret of Mexico's half-century of political stability—Mr. López Portillo has given priority to winning back conservative groups that several times during the Echeverría administration seemed on the point of breaking with the establishment.

He has done this by adopting the tough economic measures necessary to control inflation.

(Continued on Page 8.)



President José López Portillo.

Recession Reduces Trade Deficit

MEXICO CITY (UPI)—Mexico is once again proving the sturdy economic maxim that "there is nothing like a recession to improve a country's trade figures." With the economy slumped and new investment halted, Mexico's trade deficit has fallen by over 70 per cent so far this year.

Increased oil and coffee revenues have helped enormously. But imports of expensive capital goods are now running lower than at any time since 1973, and this is what makes the difference.

The improved trade picture is nevertheless being used by the government to show that it is doing the right things to "rescue" the economy. The related improvement in the balance of payments has also helped reassure foreign bankers who are again being asked for huge long-term loans. But the nagging fear remains that as soon as the economy is refueled and massive capital imports are resumed, serious payments problems will return.

But when this happens in, say, the second half of 1978, oil exports should at least have partially transformed the nation's foreign trade outlook. And as capital imports rise, so should oil sales abroad. With natural gas exports coming onstream in 1980 to further bolster the trade situation. By 1982, in fact, oil and natural gas exports should be earning Mexico \$5.8 billion annually compared to a mere \$560 million last year and an estimated \$950 million this year.

The Short Term

In the short term, though, this very hydrocarbon bonanza will bring its own problems. The state oil monopoly, Petróleos Mexicanos, estimates that it needs over \$9 billion worth of external financing during the next six years, most of it to be used to buy equipment for drilling, refining and transporting oil and natural gas. Both the trade deficit and the debt-servicing

burden will therefore reflect these purchases.

For this powerful reason, then, the economy cannot now sit back and hope that oil revenues will compensate for its poor export capacity. And for multiple other reasons, not least to create jobs which will eventually ease internal demand, Mexico must learn how to export.

The government of former President Luis Echeverría seemed aware of this need and spent millions of dollars on trade delegations and industrial fairs trying to open up new markets outside the United States. But domestic industry, making comfortable profits behind high protective barriers, failed to follow its lead.

The new administration of President López Portillo is also conscious of the need to make Mexico competitive abroad, but now the problem is that there are few industrial products available for export. Even though domestic demand is down and many

factories have spare capacity, protectionism has again neutralized any natural instinct to produce for export.

World Markets

But protectionism is only the best reason not to export. Companies with a captive domestic market can pass on inefficiencies, outdated technology and high labor costs in the form of inflated prices for the consumer and still earn a 30-to-40-per-cent return on capital. Abroad, even with the advantage of last year's peso devaluation, open competition does not allow this.

But there are other excellent reasons not to bother with world markets. Export of the simplest product still requires passage through a fearsome bureaucratic maze of paperwork, permits and payoffs which job-conscious civil servants are naturally reluctant to eliminate.

Unless the products are going overseas to the United States,

transportation is also a headache: railroad and road services to Veracruz are slow and inefficient and, at the port, warehousing facilities are inadequate; the port itself is antiquated; there is still no container port in Mexico—and so shallow that fully loaded vessels larger than 10,000 tons cannot be accommodated. Because of the problems at Veracruz and other Mexican ports, many Mexican exporters in fact prefer to ship through Galveston or San Diego, compensating for the additional freight costs by other savings.

Finally, sheer lack of export experience is enough to dissuade many producers. Except for transnational corporations that in practice impose international standards on Mexico, few potential exporters are willing to adjust to the international market's demands for quality and style. For example, one leather manufacturer wanted to sell wallets

(Continued on Page 5.)



Rich Prospects

For Shattered Economy, Bright Future in Oil and Gas

MEXICO CITY (UPI)—The Mexican economy is still in the doldrums, but the government is making full use of the recession to prepare for the fresh winds that should not be many months away. Only 10 months ago, a shattered economy, already its main places are back in place and a strengthened economy should soon be ready for expansion.

Mexico's very real economic troubles today should therefore be seen not only in the light of the chaotic conditions prevailing when President López Portillo took office last Dec. 1, but also the rich prospects for development opened up by the country's massive new oil and natural gas finds. Progress so far and confidence in the future thus explain the relative optimism to be found today.

Even before the final controversy of the administration of President Luis Echeverría, the government was destined to take a very difficult situation. Relations between government and business were bad, new investment had stopped, money was leaving the country, the public foreign debt had increased fivefold in six years to \$19.5 billion, the balance of payments deficit reached a record \$3.5 billion in 1975, inflation was running at 5 per cent a year and unemployment was growing.

But on Aug. 31, 1976, the Mexican currency was devalued for the first time in 23 years and, as rumors of every imaginable disaster gripped the country, the peso lost 45 per cent of its value, more than doubled the country's wages and prices rocketed to lift inflation for the year to 45 per cent and confidence at home and abroad was destroyed.

In an emotional and well-received inaugural address, President López Portillo appealed for calm and unity and, in almost Churchillian tones, asked for sacrifice and patience during the two years or so needed to rebuild the economy. And with that, he immediately set about applying the stiff tonic that the International Monetary Fund had prescribed and which he also recognized as unavoidable.

Deficits

Government deficit spending, which had been one of the main causes of inflation and had been the expression of the regime's reformist demands, was immediately cut back. With the bureaucracy ordered to take on no new expenditures and even to reduce staff, possible wages for the labor minority, which were raised by 43 per cent in Echeverría's last year, were committed to rise by only 10 per cent. Imports, which had risen by six years, were held down. The government adjusted an IMF-imposed net foreign borrowing limit of \$3 billion to \$2.5 billion.

Results of these measures were being seen. The peso recovered about 10 per cent of its value compared to the devaluation last November and, it is still expected to float slowly against the dollar, demonstrating extraordinary resilience in recent months. When López Portillo took over, the peso was at 16 pesos to the dollar, even 60 pesos to the dollar by the end of this year, but it now floats around 23 pesos, 45 pesos to the dollar, its pre-devaluation level of 12.50 pesos. Money that fled the country in 1976 is also beginning to return, although about two-thirds of the \$4 billion that left in the first half of the year is now being used for foreign investment in the state or fixed-term deposits. Continuing further signs of economic activity here, Mexico's balance of payments deficit, though, has shrunk to \$452.9 million during the first six months of this year compared to \$1.6 billion during the same period last year. To a large extent, this reflects improvements in the trade picture stemming from healthy oil and coffee exports and the recession-related drop in imports. During the first half of the year, exports rose by 30 per cent to \$2.3 billion, while imports fell by 21 per cent to \$2.4 billion. The trade deficit itself thus fell from \$1.4 billion in January to June last year to \$271.9 million during the same period this year. Tourism has still to recover its record 1974 level, but there are signs that this winter season will be the best ever.

Inflation

Finally, with the exception of a surge in August due to hikes in milk and wheat, inflation has steadily slowed throughout this year as money has become tighter and demand has eased. Inflation for this year should therefore be around 20 per cent, a vast improvement on 1976's inflation rate of 45 per cent. The IMF wishes to see here by 1978. These results, however, have brought considerable social costs. Unemployment and underemployment, for which no official statistics exist in Mexico, have clearly risen sharply as companies have cut back production and, in some cases, been forced into bankruptcy and as close to a million youths have joined the job market for the first time. The result has been a rise in petty crime and a sharp fall in migration levels for much of the population, with many recent migrants to cities being forced to return to the countryside.

Industry, above all small and medium-sized, has been hit hard. (Continued on Page 5.)

Petroleum Resources Put Country Among World's Giants

New discoveries are being made so rapidly that the state oil monopoly is already having to revise its six-year investment program...

MEXICO CITY (UPI)—In just a matter of months, oil has gone from rescuing Mexico from a short-term crisis to transforming the country's development outlook for the rest of this century. Admittedly, for three years now, there has been intense speculation about Mexico's oil wealth. But the new government of President López Portillo has decided to come clean on the issue: in resources, though not yet in production, Mexico is one of the world's oil giants.

So far, the country's oil reserve figures do not reflect the extent of its richness. Within three weeks of taking office last December, the new government abruptly revised the country's oil reserves from 6.3 billion to 11 billion barrels, offering no explanation for the previous administration's conservatism. To reassure skeptics, it then called in a respected firm of American oil actuaries, de Golyer and MacNaughton, which duly confirmed the new estimate. In June, reserves were again revised upwards to 14 billion barrels and now they stand at 16.8 billion barrels. But these figures only cover areas now under exploitation and, with more than 100 potential oil-bearing structures already identified, few experts doubt that Mexico's very probable oil reserves are between 80 and 100 billion barrels, placing the country in the same league as Iran, although for the foreseeable future outside OPEC.

New discoveries are being made so rapidly that the state oil monopoly, Pemex, is already having to revise its six-year investment program announced last December. Officially, the \$15.5-billion plan is still to double oil production to 2.2 million barrels a day, to double refining capacity to 1,670,000 barrels a day and to more than triple basic petrochemical output to 1.6 million tons a year by 1982. But

Pemex has now added the prospect of building a \$1.5-billion natural gas pipeline to the United States, while the highly successful exploration program is already demanding accelerated exploitation of resources.

Several major obstacles lie in the way of Utopia. The financial requirements of this investment are vast, with foreign banks inevitably having to produce most of the credit. But the International Monetary Fund has imposed stiff net foreign borrowing limits on Mexico—\$3 billion in 1977 and just \$2 billion in 1978—that will slow the growth of the industry unless they are relaxed in the coming months. Only after 1980 will oil and natural gas revenues begin to reverse the effect of huge purchases abroad of drilling, refining and petrochemical equipment on the country's balance of payments.

Questioned

The ability of Pemex to carry out this program can also reasonably be questioned. The company was created following the nationalization of American and British oil firms here in 1938 and, through corruption and inefficiency, over-staffing and poor financial management, it failed to keep up with domestic demand. By the early seventies, one of the world's largest exporters of oil, it had become an importer of oil. And even today, the production-to-manpower ratio of Pemex is three times higher than that of Venezuela and many times higher than that of the most efficient producers of the Middle East. The corruption of the Pemex trade unions is also so high that Mexicans joke that the nationalist slogan of 1938, "The Oil is Ours," is interpreted

too literally by the oil industry workers.

But the outlook for Pemex changed dramatically in May 1972 when new oil fields were discovered near the village of Reforma in the southeastern state of Chiapas, close to the border with Tabasco and not far from the Gulf of Mexico. Eighteen months later, the world energy crisis suddenly inflated Mexico's oil import bill and, after domestic fuel prices were raised to bolster Pemex's finances, the drive for self-sufficiency was launched. By August 1974, Mexico had become a net exporter of oil and, now, three years later, it is selling 200,000 barrels a day abroad and earning \$2.7 million a day. Exports by 1982 are projected at over one million barrels a day, which at current prices will mean annual earnings of \$5 billion.

Untouched

But the extraordinary feature of the Chiapas-Tabasco area is that it is still relatively untouched. Just four fields are now producing 700,000 barrels a day, while 11 more have been test-drilled and found to be highly productive, with new wells in the Agave district producing over 10,000 barrels a day, each. Some 70 more on-shore structures have been identified through seismicological tests, while an 820-mile pipeline is built from

shore of the neighboring state of Campeche have proved so rich that there are high hopes for the 60 or so structures identified on the continental shelf.

Pemex Director-General Jorge Díaz Serrano recently suggested that two off-shore wells—Chac Pozo Roca, on and off shore in Tamaulipas and on the Baja California Peninsula. And, according to Pemex, only about 10 per cent of Mexico has yet been surveyed for potential oil-bearing structures.

Exploration is naturally being concentrated in Chiapas and Tabasco, but test drilling is also going ahead in Veracruz state, west of the historic wells around Poza Rica, on and off shore in Tamaulipas and on the Baja California Peninsula. And, according to Pemex, only about 10 per cent of Mexico has yet been surveyed for potential oil-bearing structures.

Amazingly, until last winter's natural gas shortage in the United States, Mexico had not focused on the extraordinary gas resources that had been discovered with the oil. Last year, for example, Pemex burned \$475 million worth of natural gas, while only one-third of gas extracted with the oil was sold commercially. After last winter's American crisis, though, President López Portillo personally intervened and ordered that an 820-mile pipeline be built from

Chiapas-Tabasco to the U.S. border at McAllen, Texas, whence gas could be shipped east to Florida and west to California.

Mexico's as yet uncalculated natural gas reserves, however, are so large that Pemex already fears that the planned 48-inch-diameter pipeline will be too small to carry all the gas that will be available for export by 1983. The pipeline will have a capacity of 2.5 billion cubic feet a day, similar to that of the trans-Canada line bringing gas from the Alaska North Slope, but production in 1982 will be "much higher" than the four billion cubic feet a day forecast a few months ago, according to Mr. Díaz Serrano. In addition, "highly encouraging and promising" deposits of gas have been found in the Basin of Sabinas, near Monclova in the state of Coahuila, and around Nuevo Laredo, by the Texas border.

Pipelines

Financing for the pipeline is already available, with Pemex obtaining exceptionally good terms for its gas—the prevailing price-energy ratio of No. 2 fuel oil landed at New York Harbor, which at present is about \$2.60 per 1,000 cubic feet. Income from gas exports should therefore exceed \$1.8 billion a year by 1982, not only paying off the cost of the line but also financing expansion of a domestic gas network which could touch the U.S. border again further west, particularly if new gas finds in Baja California live up to early promise. To cover the construction cost, though, the Ex-Im Bank of the United States has provided \$50 million worth of credit, while a consortium of six U.S. gas distribution companies—the Texas Eastern Transmission Co., the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Co., the Florida Gas Co., the Southern Natural Resources

Co., the El Paso Natural Gas Co. and Tennessee Gas—are providing additional financing through advance payment for gas.

Cheap Energy

Domestic consumption of gas will also inevitably rise over the next decade, being used not only in homes but also as a coal substitute—Mexico has poor coal resources and is currently importing the "sponge iron" process patented worldwide by Mexico's HYLSA steel corporation.

Compared to most industrialized countries, Mexico is thus easily provided with vast supplies of cheap energy. And compared to most oil-exporting countries, Mexico already has an enviable industrial base, founded in part on its very nationalization of the oil industry three decades before such moves were fashionable. But the Mexican economy does not rely exclusively on oil and natural gas for its energy.

The government of former President Luis Echeverría invested heavily in the electricity sector, more than doubling installed capacity to 10.6 million kilowatts by last December. But, in doing so, he also tripled the Federal Electricity Commission's external debt to \$3.2 billion, almost 20 per cent of Mexico's entire public foreign debt. The utility's vulnerable financial situation is therefore one reason why its plan to raise generating capacity to almost 20 million KW by 1982 must be taken with reserve. Significantly, the Federal Electricity Commission's first major foreign credit of the new government will be a share of the \$1.2-billion syndicated loan now being sought by the central government.

At present, 63 per cent of Mexico's electricity is generated

(Continued on Page 8.)



Mining Almost Alone in Middle of Investment, Production Boom...

Mining

By Evan Rocha

MEXICO CITY (IHT).—In contrast to much of Mexico's recession economy, mining is moving full speed ahead in the middle of an investment and production boom that outshines almost all other sectors except petroleum.

Next year, operations begin at a 325,000-metric-ton-per-year copper mine in Sonora, construction continues on an \$80-million, iron-ore expansion at Pena Colorado and silver production is expected to increase to 45 million ounces, more than that of any other nation in the world.

Massive government investment is the main catalyst behind the Mexican mining boom. The government increased its share in the value of mining production from 15 per cent in 1970 to nearly 40 per cent at the end of last year—an investment equal to the sum total of the preceding 70 years.

The development bank Nacional Financiera and the mining holding company Comisión de Fomento a Minería hold the government's 44 per cent equity in Cia Mexicana de Cobre, whose 225,000-metric-ton-per-year (mtpy) blister copper mine is supposed to start up at Nacozari, Sonora, next year. The \$600-million investment in that project include a concentrate refinery and electrolytic refinery plant to produce close to 150,000 mtpy of electrolytic copper after starting up in 1979.

In 1976, mining operations began at Consorcio Minero Benito Juárez Peña Colorado, majority-owned by the government steel companies Siderurgia Lazaro Cardenas-Las Truchas and Altos Hornos de Mexico. This year the government began building an \$80-million second phase, now 30 per cent completed and due on-stream by the end of next year, to double production of iron ore pellets to 3 million mtpy.

Cia Minera Antio, S.A. de C.V., is still on the learning curve at its \$50-million ferro-alloy plant in Tamaso, Veracruz, which went on-stream late in 1976. The new plant increases the 34 per cent state-owned company's production capacities to 300,000 mtpy of ferro-manganese and more than 300,000 mtpy of manganese nodules.

The giants of the Mexican

mining industry are Industrial Minera Mexico, S.A. (Immsa), formerly Asarco Mexicana and now Asarco minority, and Industrias Penoles, S.A., a Mexican company. Immsa's total sales came to \$283 million in 1976, bettered only by Penoles among Mexican mining companies, with Penoles sales reaching \$270 million. Both companies produce several dozen products and export from a third to a half of their total production, depending on year-by-year market conditions. They gear their production to various lead, zinc, silver and non-ferrous minerals.

The Mexican mining production includes a wide range of metallic and non-metallic minerals, led by copper, lead, zinc, fluorite, sulphur, graphite and silver. Silver production of 42 million ounces, fluorite production of 897,000 metric tons and graphite production of 60,337 metric tons in 1976 were more than in any other country. Copper came to 88,000 mtpy last year, lead totaled 200,000 mtpy and zinc came to 256,000 metric tons. Sulphur mining, controlled exclusively by Mexican government-owned companies, produced 2.15 million metric tons in 1976. Taken as a whole, mining production contributed \$1 billion (14 billion pesos) to the GNP in 1976, 1.1 per cent of the total.

Led by the continuing investments of the Comisión de Fomento a Minería and to a lesser extent Nacional Financiera, mining growth during the rest of this decade should exceed the 3-5 per cent per year production increases through 1976.

Short-term commitments already guarantee substantial increases in copper, iron ore and coal production and steady growth of silver, lead and zinc. Long-term possibilities are highlighted by exploitation of 3 billion tons of phosphoric rock deposits discovered on the Baja California peninsula and continued development of copper deposits discovered in Nichoacan and Baja California.

Manufacturing

MEXICO CITY (IHT).—After three decades of steady growth, Mexico's manufacturing industries now face the painful transition from the generally low-

volume, relatively high-cost production typical of developing countries to the large-scale export-oriented model more common in industrial nations.

Ambitious new projects include a \$500-million aluminum smelter, \$85-million stainless steel plant, \$2 billion worth of new primary petrochemicals and a \$3-billion expansion of basic state-owned steel facilities, all of them intended to produce export volumes generous enough to provide permanent export markets and competitive economies of scale.

"We now estimate that manufacturing exports contribute about 30 to 40 per cent of our total annual exports," explains an economist in the government's Foreign Trade Institute. "But we are still exporting what can't be sold on the domestic market. We have to build up permanent export production and maintain permanent export markets."

Spurred by official policy which promotes import substitution by giving a potential manufacturer closed-border protection against competing imports, Mexico's manufacturing industries grew at an average of 9 per cent annually during the 1960s, when their relative share of the gross domestic product increased from 19 per cent to 23 per cent. Although annual growth slowed during the 1970s, by the end of last year Mexico's manufacturing industries including primary petrochemical production accounted for 24.8 per cent of the gross domestic product, a total of 323 billion pesos, worth \$19.6 billion at the average peso exchange rate for that year.

In 1976 the Mexican economy produced 178 per cent over the volume of manufactured products produced in 1967.

Despite an industrial slump, the size and diversity of the country's manufacturing industries and the volume of their production are second only to Brazil in Latin America and among the top 20 nations in the world.

Last year Mexican manufacturing industries produced more than five million metric tons of steel, four million of basic petrochemicals, three million tons of gray cement, two million tons of nitrate fertilizers, 300,000 motor vehicles and 114,000 color television sets. Manufacturers exported

\$104 million of processed food products, \$156 million in textiles and clothing items, \$204 million in chemical products and \$250 million worth of transport equipment.

But decades of import-substitution policies have fostered protected industries that are often inefficient. "The dynamism of our industries has weakened," President José López Portillo noted last month in his first State of the Union message. "Currency devaluation has shown up the financial vulnerability of the prevailing industrial structure and its basic foundation in the indiscriminate substitution of imports."

The decline of manufacturing industry growth came hand in hand with monetary distortions that led to devaluation of the Mexican peso slightly more than a year ago. The real growth of the gross domestic product fell from an average of more than 7 per cent from 1960 through 1973 to 5.9 per cent in 1974, 4.2 per cent in 1975 and 2 per cent in 1976, the worst year since the Second World War. Businessmen and the government feared and private investment declined in real terms.

The private sector is now being asked to join a national "Production Alliance" by investing heavily in basic goods accessible to marginal classes through low-cost distribution channels. Cement manufacturers have promised to boost investments during the next six years. They plan to move from double production to bring a regular two-million-ton-per-year export surplus.

Auto-parts manufacturers plan \$125 billion in investments, private petrochemical producers \$1.65 billion and capital-goods manufacturers \$400 million. The Mexican-French joint-venture Mexinox is building an \$85-million stainless steel plant in San Luis Potosí, planning roughly half its 40,000 metric-ton-per-year (mtpy) production for export.

The Mexican-American mixed-venture Petrosol export most of its 150,000 mtpy production of raw materials for polyester fibers. The private steel companies Elysa and Tubos de Acero de Mexico S.A. (Tamsa) are programming regular export sales. IBM's new Jalisco plant is

exporting typewriters to Japan and Nissan Motors' new Cuernavaca plant has designated a share of its Datsun vehicle production for sales in Central America.

The state still plays the major role in investment. It strengthens opportunities through fiscal and financial incentives for exports, for basic goods and to encourage decentralization. Even more important, the state is by a large margin the most important single manufacturing investor in Mexico.

The government owns and operates more than 850 companies and financial institutions, including several dozen industrial companies that number among the major enterprises in the country: Altos Hornos de Mexico, Latin America's largest steel company with a 3.75-million-mtpy capacity; Petrosol Mexicano, the oil and petrochemical monopoly; Siderurgia Lazaro Cardenas Las Truchas S.A. (Sicarta), a 1.35-million-mtpy steel company; Diesel Nacional, making motor vehicles, tractors, diesel engines, and many other major equipment.

Despite current austerity policies recommended by the International Monetary Fund, the Mexican government will invest roughly \$8 billion in 1977, including approximately \$4 billion for industrial projects. The López Portillo six-year administration plans to invest \$3 billion to double the capacity of Sicarta, as well as an investment of \$2 billion to triple Petrosol Mexicano's petrochemical production and more than \$500 million to increase fertilizer capacity. The state majority-owned Jahumex will spend \$500 million to build a 145,000-mtpy aluminum smelter in Veracruz. And the government plans to invest \$3 billion to double newspaper production at a 50,000-mtpy new plant in San Luis Potosí and \$110 million to build a 100,000-mtpy newspaper plant based on sugarcane pulp in Veracruz.

The larger, basic industrial projects are almost always located outside crowded urban areas and are designed to include steady and permanent export production surpluses. Although the transition to an export base may take most of President López Portillo's years in office, Mexican

manufacturing industries should emerge with more growth potential than had been previously anticipated.

Construction

MEXICO CITY (IHT).—Mexico's \$8.5-billion-per-year construction industry is looking towards new federal investments to pull it out of the worst decline in recent memory. Volume dropped 2 per cent for 1976 and a disastrous 14 per cent over the first four months of 1977.

Projects, including the \$12-billion Mexico City subway expansion and the \$800-million suburban electric railway and, of course, a \$1.5-billion, 800-mile natural gas pipeline, should lead the construction sector back to rapid growth by 1979.

"We will have to do some substantial purchasing abroad, and we may need some relatively minimal technological assistance," says an official involved in Petrosol Mexicano's gas pipeline project. "But the civil construction work will be contracted entirely to Mexican companies."

Subway construction has already been contracted to 15 Mexican companies, headed by Ingenieros Civiles Asociados (ICA), which was the main contractor of the existing 42 kilometers of subway line. The expansion will double that total.

The electric railroad system has been given preliminary approval by the Mexican government, but the final go-ahead will depend on some further studies.

To solve an economic crisis that climaxed in 1976 with the devaluation of the Mexican peso, the government has had to move slowly on new investments that might otherwise have softened the blow to the construction industry. But as of September, 1977, President José López Portillo announced plans to invest close to \$8 billion this year and to move ahead with several major projects. The biggest announcement is expected in the near future—renewal of the postponed second phase of the Lazaro Cardenas Las Truchas steel plant Sicarta, a \$3-billion, five-year project to double the present nominal steel-making capacity of 1.35 million metric tons annually.

Pablo Trevino, president of the National Chamber of Construction Industries, says the wave of new project announcements during the last four weeks has prompted a revision of an early August, cautiously optimistic recovery forecast. "We have hit bottom and we are going to come up faster than we had thought," he said. (The earlier forecast projected a slow but steady recovery over an 18-month period.)

A chamber projection indicates a 263-per-cent increase in total volume of construction work by 1987, when the industry will build about \$26 billion worth in current dollar terms. By that time, employment will have grown from roughly 750,000 to about 1 million workers, including approximately 500,000 skilled workers, construction's share of the GNP would reach 5.2 per cent, up from 4.9 per cent in 1976.

Projecting current trends through the end of 1987, the chamber planners expect the volume to be divided 40 per cent to residential construction, 28 per cent industrial and commercial construction and 32 per cent infrastructure works.

The trickiest barrier to realizing the goal, the study notes, is the lack of qualified skilled labor. Like ICA, Bufete is doing a growing business in design, engineering and construction services in other Latin American countries. ICA has done major hydroelectric work in Colombia and Ecuador and highway construction in Guatemala and other countries. Bufete Industrial has been contracted for industrial engineering and construction supervision in the Dominican Republic, Peru and Argentina.

Steel

MEXICO CITY (IHT).—The Mexican government is consolidating its sizable holdings in the domestic steel industry this year, as part of a long-range plan to move the local steel-makers into a position of regional dominance. The consolidation means coordinated management of the three principal government companies: Altos Hornos de Mexico S.A. (Ahmsa), Siderurgia Lazaro Cardenas-La Truchas S.A. (Sicarta) and Fundidora Monterrey.

A spokesman for the Secretariat

of National Properties and Industrial Growth says the next step is detailed coordination, the three companies to agree line marketing, distribution planning. Depending on when the state holdings may be converted to a holding company called Sidermex, S.A.

"The program has been simply confused with a supposed government incursion into private-sector territory," says Francisco Jauregui, assistant manager of the National Steel Industry Chamber. "The government controls the majority in Ahmsa and Sicarta and an effective majority of per cent in Fundidora Monterrey. It is an absolute majority but, largest single block of 66 per cent, enough to effectively control management decisions. All wants to do is manage more efficiently. For example, why this Sicarta waste money on a fore distribution system when Ahmsa already has one?"

Nominal steelmaking capacity in Mexico was effectively doubled from 1970 to 1976, to 10 million metric tons. Sicarta, which stream late last year and produce barely 800,000 metric tons this year, Ahmsa is expected produce about 2.5 million of capacity of 3.75 million, but, too, is starting up production in newly completed facility Fundidora has finished expansion from 500,000 to 1.5 million metric tons per year, but has been but crippled by labor problems and a \$400 million foreign debt that led to near bankruptcy in the government stepped in at this year.

The steelmakers are hoping increase production to more than 8 million metric tons this year despite a soft domestic market down by plunging demand in construction and automot manufacturing. Imports of 2 and steel products were down over the first seven months 200,000 tons from 350,000 one year earlier. Exports of basic steel products were up to 336,000 tons, from 214,000 one year earlier. Production figures cast as doubt on chances for a 5-million ton year. Steel ingot production dropped 2.7 per cent during first seven months of 1977, 2.99 million metric tons. (Continued on next page)

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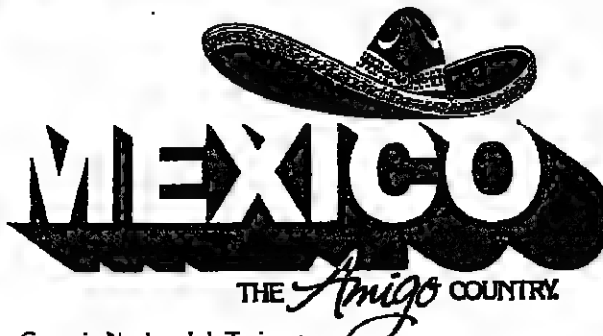
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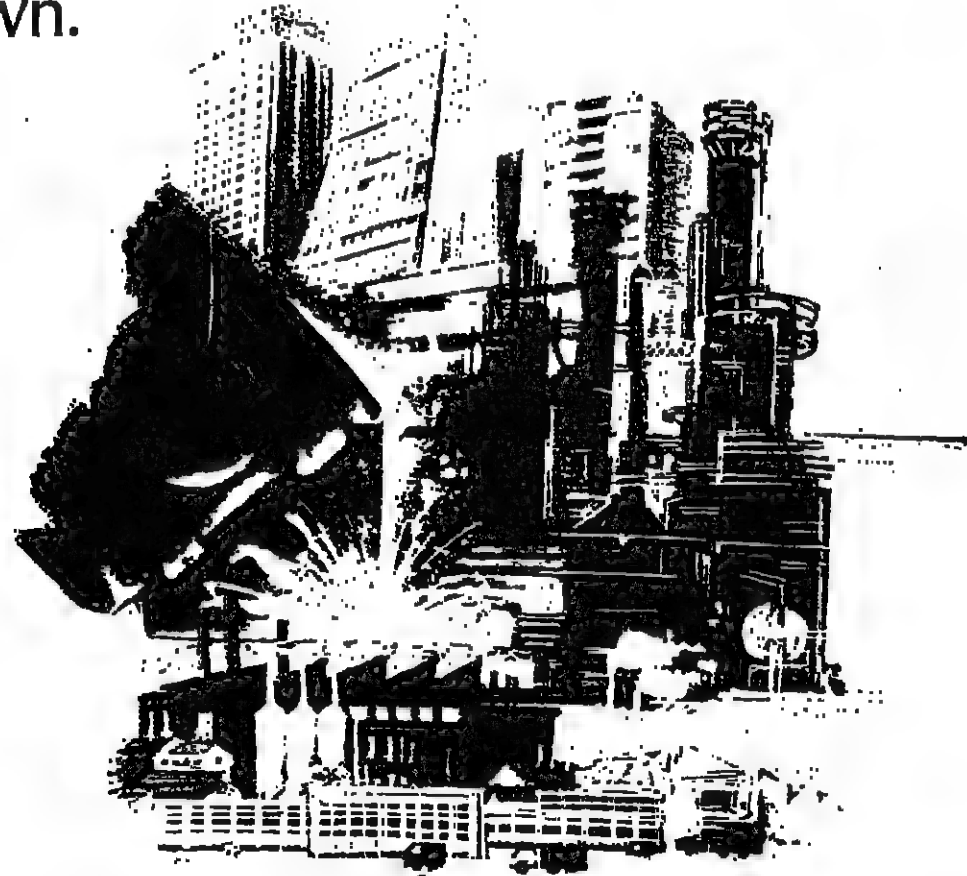


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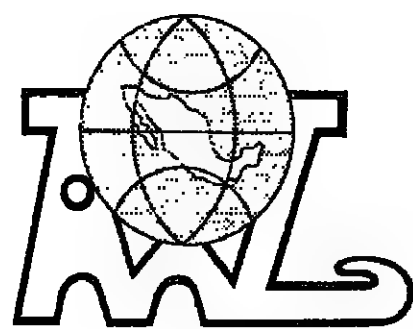
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Mexico City: Among World's Fastest Growing Urban Area

MEXICO CITY (UPI).—By any criteria, this city is an urbanist's nightmare. Expected to grow from 12 million inhabitants today to more than 30 million by the year 2000, it is already the largest poor city in the world and, by the end of the century, it will be bigger than Tokyo, New York and Shanghai.

Mexico City's problems would seem minimal were it not at an altitude of 7,400 feet, the only one of the world's 15 largest cities not situated at or near sea level. The extra cost of providing the capital with food, water and energy is exorbitant; the problems of air pollution are aggravated and the difficulties of construction are heightened.

The distribution of Mexico's population is also a problem. Some 80 per cent of the country's irrigated land, 85 per cent of its water supplies, 90 per cent of its hydroelectric energy and 100 per cent of its oil are to be found less than 500 meters above sea level. Yet, only 20 per cent of the country's 64 million population lives at these low altitudes.

Decentralization

President Lopez Portillo's administration has established decentralization from Mexico City as a priority goal. And, rather than relying on the rather ineffective tax incentives of the past to decentralize industry, Mr. Lopez Portillo has already begun sending government agencies to the provinces.

Naturally, there is resistance, above all from politicians who feel they may be forgotten. But the President has expressed his determination to ship out all ministries and departments that do not have to remain in the city. And if this occurs and some of the focal points of power are shifted away from the capital, then industry and new job opportunities should follow.

The Gulf Coast area is the natural region for expansion. The states of Tamaulipas, Veracruz, Tabasco and Campeche have rich agricultural land, many rivers, vast fishing potential, most of Mexico's oil and natural gas reserves and, not least, they offer natural gateways to the export markets of the U.S. East Coast and Europe.

Although there is no suggestion

yet of moving the capital to this region, the change of geographic emphasis required of Mexico is comparable only to that in Brazil after Brasilia was built. Brazil had to look towards its interior; Mexico must turn away from the mountains.

The Mexican government's success in promoting such a change will define the severity of Mexico City's crisis in the coming years. Even an exceptionally successful decentralization policy will probably mean a population of 25 million instead of 30 million in the capital by the year 2000.

(Continued from Page 1.) and stabilize the currency, which was devalued with disastrous consequences last fall.

Equally important, he has adopted a quiet style of government—"actions not words"—and he has taken to praising businessmen for their responsibility rather than lambasting them for their unpatriotic greed. In an important symbolic gesture early in his administration, the President even traveled to Monterrey, scene of Mr. Echeverria's most bitter confrontations with the private sector, and hunched at the home of industrialist Bernardo Garza Sada, head of the powerful Monterrey Group.

In foreign affairs, the new regime's principal concern has been to repair relations with Washington, which had been damaged by Mr. Echeverria's Third World militancy. The new Foreign Minister, Santiago Roel, is unabashedly pro-American, while President Lopez Portillo was the first foreign leader to visit President Carter last February.

Serious bilateral problems remain, not least the Carter administration's plan to curb the flow of illegal Mexican migrants to the United States, but Mr. Lopez Portillo believes that bilateral problems should be resolved bilaterally and not by resorting to hostility in international forums. Domestically, this policy has been warmly welcomed by the private sector, which is highly conscious of Mexico's economic dependence on the United States.

Compared to other regions, Mexico City remains a powerful magnet for unemployed migrants—more than 1,000 arrive every day—while its own natural growth rate is among the highest in the world for urban areas.

Even now, the problems are myriad and frightening. Millions of poor peasants have spawned vast "lost cities" that lack all basic utilities. Water, when available, can be obtained at communal taps or from water trucks; drainage is nonexistent; streets are unpaved and, depending on the season, are either dusty or

muddy; garbage is strewn everywhere; homes are improvised shacks of wood and carton; police protection is minimal; job openings are usually many miles away, and public transportation in these districts is inadequate.

Strain on City

As "lost cities" grow much faster than public services can reach them, the strain on the city government constantly increases. It is felt throughout the capital. The cost of bringing water up to Mexico City and then

draining it off again is overwhelming and, as a result, even respectable residential areas suffer water shortages and flooding.

Finally, the cost of building in the capital is five times greater than in most alternative areas, not only because material must be brought from other regions, but also because the soft subsoil requires that special measures be taken to prevent sinking. Many old buildings in the capital lean precariously to this day. New techniques have been developed to ensure that modern construc-

tions sink evenly and, there, unnoticed.

Perhaps the greatest shock first-time visitors to Mexico City, however, is the degree of pollution, which often leaves its victims with stinging eyes and throats. This problem is the result of a classic vicious cycle: most industry is in or near Mexico City; migrants are attracted here; and new industrial investment is made because skilled labor is available.

As in most developing cities, air pollution controls almost unheard of here. They exist on paper but are not implemented, and all forms of fumes are poured into the atmosphere every day. Added to this, there are about 1.3 million vehicles in the capital, many of them dilapidated and running largely on oil and good fumes.

The new administration decided to tackle first the problem of public transportation, which is so bad that even city dwellers prefer to buy cars and use them during the week rather than wait for the

At present, there are many different kinds of public transportation—some, like buses, taxis, are run privately; others, like trolley-buses, trams, subways, are run by the government. If the government is to take over the entire transportation system and nations it, the bus owners' lobby would be too strong politically to succumb to such a move.

The alternative has been to extend the subway system, which was built between 1968 and 1970 but was seemingly ignored by the last administration. On several new lines was inaugurated by President Lopez Portillo in August.

As with all other problems, the demand for public transport is growing much faster than services. The prospects for the city are bleak. In some of the town and residential areas, there remains a charming capital, offering excellent food, parks, interesting architecture and an active cultural life. Every day, the city's problems seem to invade "nicer" areas more and more, and air and noise pollution, shortages and blackouts, traffic jams and beggars.

Putting House in Order Given Top Priority

Settlement of Mexico's long conflict with Spain was also popular at home, although its effect was quickly neutralized by disapproval over Mr. Diaz Ordaz's appointment as Ambassador to Madrid. The issue nevertheless required delicate handling since Mexico had long been the only country to recognize the Spanish Republican government-in-exile. With Gen. Franco dead and Spain moving towards elections, however, the Republicans agreed to "dissolve" their ties with Mexico, opening the way for Mexican recognition of King Juan Carlos in late March.

The economic justification for President Lopez Portillo's state visit to Spain last week—to be followed soon by a visit to Mexico by King Juan Carlos—was that Mexico can use Spain as a "stepping-stone" to Europe, while Spain can "re-enter" Latin America through Mexico. But, 167 years after Mexico's independence, the visit had the trappings of a family reunion between the mother country and its largest and most important former colony in the New World. And if this were not apparent enough, Mr. Lopez Portillo even visited the Navarra home of his Spanish ancestors.

Political Lexicon

In less than one year, the guiding words of Mr. Echeverria's term in office—the Third World—have disappeared from Mexico's political lexicon. In his inaugural address and again in his State

of the Union speech, President Lopez Portillo pointedly avoided using the words, although he reiterated Mexico's support for efforts to re-order the world economy. The omission, though, was significant because foreign affairs here are no longer dictated by links with Africa, Asia and the progressive nations of America nor, indeed, dominated by Mr. Echeverria's campaigns for Third World leadership, the Nobel Peace Prize and the U.N. Secretary-Generalship.

The re-emphasis of foreign policy has not been popular with leftist groups in Mexico who see it as evidence that the government is moving to the right. Yet Mexico continues to boycott Chile's military junta—relations were broken in 1974—and remains a haven for thousands of political refugees from the right-wing regimes of South America, principally Chile, Argentina and Uruguay.

One of the vulnerable points of Mexico's political stability has been the system's inability in recent years to incorporate all the important currents of political opinion. The long-ruling Institutional Revolutionary party (PRI) remains the elite's main instrument of political control and electoral expression, used both as a stepping-stone to power and as a reward for past loyalties.

But the three other legal parties have failed to attract the voices of dissent that have been growing since the 1968 anti-government protest movement. The Popular Socialist party and the Authentic Party of the Mexican

Revolution are little more than adjuncts of the PRI, while the conservative National Action party has been so weakened by infighting that it has failed to perform as a true opposition.

As a result, the PRI has won all elections for president, state governor and senator since 1929 and at present it holds 198 of the 197 elected seats in the Chamber of Deputies. Through a system of minority representation, however, 41 opposition deputies also sit in the chamber. President Lopez Portillo's objective is to give access to electoral office to the numerous opposition groups that are not now registered parties. A planned political reform will increase the size of the Chamber of Deputies—300 members to be elected directly and 100 through proportional representation—and make it easier for new parties to become legalized.

With a dozen or so leftist groups threatening to "fragment" the party system, the new registration requirements should encourage the formation of coalitions on the left. The Communist party will probably become legal for the first time in 40 years and should participate in the 1979 congressional elections, but the strength of other Marxist groups—such as the Socialist Workers' party, the Mexican Workers' party and the Revolutionary Workers' party—has still to be tested. On the right, the Mexican Democratic party, successor to the ultra-conservative Sinarquista Movement of the forties, is also seeking registration.

CENTRAL BANK MEASURES RESTORE FINANCIAL SYSTEM

The last months of 1976, particularly September to November, would qualify as a central banker's nightmare. The money supply increased from September through December at an average rate of 8.2% a month, consumer prices which had risen at an average rate of 1.4% a month during the first three quarters of 1976, during the last quarter, rose at 4.2% per month; commercial banks were faced with heavy deposits withdrawals, as a result of rumors relating to the possible nationalization of the banking system; the country, which had faced large capital outflows up to September, was faced with further massive capital flights, as the devaluation appeared to have had a perverse effect on confidence. Since then, Mexico has managed a remarkable recovery and is well on its way to restoring full confidence in its financial system and economic prospects.

During 1970-76, Mexico undertook a major effort to remedy some of the shortcomings of the development strategy followed during the previous decades. In particular, efforts were made to bring into the mainstream of economic and social life of the country broad sectors of the population living in rural areas; and, to improve the distribution of income and to overcome structural bottlenecks in key sectors of the economy—such as steel, electric power, oil and petrochemicals—which had received levels of investment that proved inadequate to meet the demands of a fast growing economy and a rising population. Nonetheless, the international context for these efforts during the period 1974-76 was less than favorable. While major economies suffered the onset of inflation and recession, from which they are still recovering, Mexico not only sustained the level of economic activity but undertook ambitious economic and social programs.

As a result, Mexico's balance of payments registered unprecedented deficits in current account, during 1975 and 1976, as international inflationary pressures were compounded by excessive levels of domestic expenditure. High levels of domestic demand, together with imported inflationary pressures led to the weakening of the balance of payments position, giving rise to a gradual loss of confidence in the Mexican peso. This was reflected by short-term capital outflows of over 4 billion dollars in 1976. Faced with massive capital flight, the Mexican authorities resorted to heavy external borrowing as well as to the existing "swap" arrangements with the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve, before deciding to allow the Mexican peso to float on August 31, 1976.

In the months that followed—September through November—Mexico was further seized by a deep crisis of confidence, which reflected not only the shock derived from a devaluation after 22 years of a fixed exchange rate, but also from the uncertainties associated with a period of political transition.

The new Administration, headed by José López Portillo, which took office on December 1st, 1976, gave high priority to reestablishing a climate of confidence in the future of the Mexican economy and in the political institutions—which have served the country so well for half a century. An Extended Fund Facility Agreement with the IMF, which had been signed at the end of the previous Administration, was ratified in December by the new government to become effective on the first of January, 1977. In it, Mexico sets out a financial program designed to reestablish the internal and external balance of the economy, gradually, over a period of three years. Mexico designed a 3-year program of adjustment in order to reduce to a minimum the social and political costs which an adjustment of the magnitude required necessarily involves.

The policy measures adopted by the Mexican Government cover the full range of policy instruments and represent a sustained effort over the period of the present Administration. In these efforts the central bank has played a major role. The main monetary measures adopted are reviewed below.

Mexican monetary policy relies mainly on two instruments: interest rate policy and legal reserve requirements. Both have been substantially revised recently to meet the needs of the economy. With respect to interest rates, Banco de México introduced on May 23 a flexible policy by which maximum interest rates payable on peso time deposits rose sharply, from 13.42 to 18.52 percent, while at the same time, the maturity range for time deposits was widened to better accommodate the needs of savers. As a result of this decision and of the continued reduction of inflationary pressures, a substantial increase in peso deposits and in the domestic availability of credit to the private sector is taking place.

The response of savers to the higher interest rates has been vigorous, showing that, at current rates of inflation, the prevailing differential over interest rates abroad has become attractive. Since May through August, peso time deposits have risen by more than 12.8 billion pesos, out of which 7.2 billion represent two-year term deposits. This increase in peso facilities

reflects the new favorable price and exchange rate expectations of savers. Moreover, the reduction in the legal reserve requirements, particularly of marginal reserve requirements from 77 to 39.5 percent approved in April, has allowed a further increase of the availability of credit to the private sector.

Also, with the purpose of promoting investment the Banco de México established a "swap" mechanism by which Mexican companies that obtain dollar credits from abroad, make a dollar deposit in a Mexican commercial bank which will in turn deposit the full amount in the central bank. Upon receipt of the dollar deposit, the Banco de México opens a rediscount line in pesos to the commercial bank, which in turn will grant a peso credit to the private firm. Upon repayment of the peso credit, the private firm may repurchase the same amount of U.S. dollars deposited at the rate of exchange of the date of the original deposit. It should be emphasized that these "swap" operations are not granted automatically, but must be reviewed and approved on a case by case basis by the central bank, which favors operations intended to finance investment. Through this mechanism firms may obtain dollar credits and be protected against exchange risk.

The financial authorities have recognized the need for bringing inflation down in order to permit a recovery of investment, the creation of employment and a better allocation of resources. This will also contribute to the stabilization of the exchange rate and the further strengthening of the financial system.

Since the peak reached in October 1976, when Consumer Price rose by 5.6% a month, an increase which reflected the exchange rate depreciation of last September, prices have shown a favorable trend. The latest available figures show substantial progress has already been achieved since the average increase in the Consumer Price Index for May through August was 1.3% per month. It is expected that the declining price trend will continue over the coming months.

A key element in the fight against inflation has been the responsible behavior of the labor sector which has limited wage claims to 10 percent since January 1977. This has been possible, in part, due to the governments "Alliance for Production," a program which the government negotiated with the private sector whereby the latter undertook to hold the prices of 90 basic products in exchange for preferential treatment with regard to imports of inputs and machinery and credit.

Perhaps the most striking development in the Mexican economy is the remarkable strengthening of internal payments. During the first semester of 1977, the deficit in the goods and services account fell to U.S. \$483 million, compared with the \$1,554.5 million in the corresponding period of 1976. This improvement, which substantially exceeded expectations, reflects the increased competitiveness of the Mexican economy at a time when U.S. and world economy recovery ensures a rising demand for Mexican goods and services.

Other contributing factors to the marked improvement of the balance of payments position are the expansion in oil exports, which may exceed U.S. \$1.1 billion in 1977 up from an estimated U.S. \$921 million at the beginning of the year, and the favorable prices for coffee and other products. As a result, Mexican authorities forecast an export expansion of about U.S. \$1.7 billion. In 1977, the current account deficit will be cut to no more than U.S. \$1.3 billion, compared with U.S. \$3 billion in 1976, despite a substantial increase in interest payments on external debt.

Concerning external credit, the reduction in the rate at which Mexico has resorted to financing from abroad in 1977, reflects a diminished need, in view of its improved balance of payments position. Noteworthy is the fact that Mexico is in full and timely compliance with all its external debt commitments, and will continue to honor them in the same way.

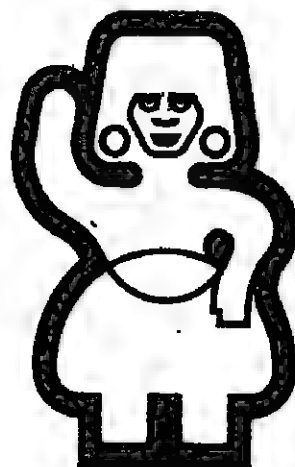
The above results demonstrate the effort on the part of the Mexican authorities to fulfill the program that they have adopted and to achieve their targets. The figures for the first semester show that all their targets were met.

To conclude, it may be stated that the Mexican economy in 1977, like that of many industrial and developing countries, is undergoing a period of adjustment that will enable it to recover in a couple of years the high rates of growth together with relative price stability for which Mexico was known in the past decades. The lessons of the past years will not be lost; there exists in Mexico a greater degree of awareness of the value of growth with stability and, with a greater measure of social justice.

As for medium-term prospects, the coming decade should, by all accounts, be an extremely favorable one for Mexico. With internal and external imbalances a thing of the past, the oil boom and the increased capacity of key sectors of the economy should ensure the achievement of high rates of growth and employment with a solid external position.

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Labor's Long-Term Prospects Raise Several Important Questions

MEXICO CITY (HTT).—Every morning, officials quietly say that an overweight and aging 78-year-old man has also taken up. The Mexican economic and political situation would be far from rosy were it not for the presence of the leader Fidel Velazquez not far from the scene. Don Fidel, as he is known locally, has run the labor union movement since 1938 and today he is more powerful than ever. As so often with such a figure, he has prepared no successor.

The immediate significance of Velazquez is that, during a period of economic stagnation, continuing inflation and controlled wages, the labor boss has prevented any serious outbreaks of worker unrest and has ensured the rapid settlement of the occasional strikes. At present, President Lopez Portillo owes more to Mr. Velazquez than to any other Mexican political figure. His continued cooperation is vital to the successful culmination of the government's economic recovery program.

But Don Fidel's role in Mexican politics goes deeper than that. As head of the Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTM), the most powerful of the three sectors of the long-ruling Institutional Revolutionary party, he is in effect part of the government. He has never openly challenged any incumbent President. At the same time, he is outside Mexico's pyramidal system of authority because he has his own power base among the 2 million workers whom he represents and has benefited.

In other words, Mr. Velazquez is a sort of transmission belt between the workers and the government, providing social improvements in one direction and delivering control in the other. The then President Luis Echeverria discovered the true strength of Don Fidel when he tried to oust him in the early seventies. Anxious to liberalize Mexican society, Mr. Echeverria encouraged the formation of "independent" trade unions and sponsored a wave of newspaper attacks against the CTM boss. Even the then president of the party, Jesus Reyes Heraldo, now ironically Interior Minister, was instructed to undermine Mr. Velazquez's position.

But when the economic crisis began in 1974 and Mr. Echeverria found himself in conflict with the private sector, he had no choice but to turn again to Don Fidel for support. The price of this political volte-face was regular and massive inflationary wage increases for the organized labor movement, providing CTM members with the only available protection against the spiraling cost of living. These wage hikes contributed enormously to the crisis that finally led to the collapse of the long-stable peso in August, 1976. But, as ever, Mr. Echeverria was willing to pay the economic price for political stability. And when it came to imposing his choice as successor on the party and the country, the President turned again to Don Fidel to make the crucial announcement that the country's next ruler would be the then Finance Minister, Jose Lopez Portillo.

On taking office last December, Mr. Lopez Portillo was both indebted to him personally and dependent on his support during the difficult months ahead. His first gesture was to create a Workers' Bank to be controlled by the CTM. Then he ordered that trade unions should select which workers will receive credit from the National Housing Institute, a concession that Mr. Echeverria had never been willing to make. And since then, "independent" unions have also been less tolerated, to the point that a strike of university workers organized by the Communist party was broken by the police in early July.

From a social point of view, the main problem is that millions of workers do not fall under Don Fidel's protective umbrella. Because of the low age structure of Mexico's 64 million inhabitants, only 18 million people—or 28 per cent—comprise the economically active population. Of these, 7 million work in the countryside, either as migrant laborers or subsistence farmers, and have no union representation. Of the remaining 11 million, scattered through industry, commerce, and services, only about 2 million are members of the CTM.

Unemployment figures are not available in Mexico, but because about half the work force is underemployed and not unionized, legal minimum wages are just one of the myths enshrined in the country's labor legislation. Profit-sharing and guaranteed access to social security are two of the many others. The private sector, while disturbed by the growth of "independent" unions during the Echeverria administration, is essentially comfortable with the present state of labor relations here. The entire construction industry and small businessmen can ignore official wage scales and dismiss workers without compensation in the knowledge that unemployment levels make all non-union employees vulnerable.

No Choice

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Social Welfare System Plays a Major Role in Political Stability

MEXICO CITY (HTT).—Mexico has among the most advanced systems of social legislation to be found in the developing world, but it is still far from fulfilling the promise of social welfare for all its people. It is, in fact, a well-entrenched Mexican tradition to exclaim: "our socio-judicial values" in fine-sounding laws, although the rhetoric is not always empty.

Slowly and often belatedly, social benefits filter down through the population, and the welfare system is extended through the country. The only drawback is that Mexico's population and its problems are growing faster than the response from the government.

According to the last available statistics, almost 70 per cent of the population live in houses of just one or two rooms. About 37 per cent have running water in their homes; just as many have no nearby access to water at all. Some 58 per cent of the homes have no built-in drainage and only 31 per cent have bathrooms installed, although 58 per cent have electricity.

Part of the economic crisis has been on the nutritional levels of the population. The National Nutrition Institute believes that 90 per cent of Mexicans suffer from poor nourishment or undernourishment and it recognizes that protein intake has inevitably fallen with the hike in the price of milk, eggs and meat. The 1970 census indicated that 20 per cent of the population never eat meat or eggs, 43 per cent never drink milk and 80 per cent never eat fish. And there is no evidence that the situation has improved since then.

Constantly undermining the government's efforts in all areas of social concern is the country's booming population. Every year, 2.8 million more Mexicans are born, demanding medical attention, food and, eventually, education. Some 750,000 graduates and dropouts look for new jobs each year. The momentum of the population boom will inevitably double the demand for social services over the next 20 years, before the new family-planning program begins to make any impact.

With the scale of the country's social problem, "gestures" by the government in this field are often almost meaningless. For instance, the National Housing Fund, which receives 5 per cent of all wages and is itself evidence of the state's good intentions, built just 24,000 houses during the past year. Yet Mexico City alone has a housing deficit of some 600,000 homes.

Even the multiplication of the budget of the National Indian Institute over the past five years has helped draw national attention to the plight of the country's 50 or more tribes. But the Indians continue to live in dire poverty, being exploited by "middlemen" and losing communal land to powerful farmers who are often in league with local political interests.

Large-scale industry, including most foreign investments and the state monopolies of oil, electricity and railroads, are all unionized, although in some cases management has even kept the CTM away from their "in-house" and malleable unions. The endemic corruption of the union leadership offers a further alternative to many company managers who know that a well-placed bribe will often settle a strike more rapidly than a major concession.

Major Role

A social welfare structure nevertheless exists and, over the past few years, has played a major role in maintaining political stability. The two groups with the greatest "revolutionary" potential—the million civil servants and the million organized workers—have been carefully coddled by successive governments, slowly forming a new middle class that is itself a guarantee against unexpected and unwanted change. The counterpart to this, of course, is the millions of slum dwellers and peasants who live outside the umbrella of social welfare, invariably in deep poverty and insecurity.

Yet, compared to most developing countries, Mexico's priorities are clearly defined. This year, for example, only 2 per cent of the budget will go to defense, while 22 per cent is assigned to social welfare and half of this to education alone. During the administration of President Luis Echeverria between 1970 and 1976, expenditure in the countryside increased fivefold. New emphasis was given to resolving the problems of the country's 30 million peasants and 5 million isolated Indians.

President Lopez Portillo is also giving maximum priority to the rural sector, although his reasoning is broader than that of his predecessor. The first and most serious impact of the economic crisis has been on the nutritional levels of the population. The National Nutrition Institute believes that 90 per cent of Mexicans suffer from poor nourishment or undernourishment and it recognizes that protein intake has inevitably fallen with the hike in the price of milk, eggs and meat. The 1970 census indicated that 20 per cent of the population never eat meat or eggs, 43 per cent never drink milk and 80 per cent never eat fish. And there is no evidence that the situation has improved since then.

Effect on Nutrition

Yet, over the past two decades, life expectancy has risen sharply to 64.9 years and infant mortality has dropped to 44.8 per thousand. The health of at least part of the population has undoubtedly improved. Workers and their families with permanent jobs have access to the hospitals of the Mexican Social Security Institute and, since 1970, the number of such beneficiaries has doubled to 13 million. But while the Institute is wealthy and well equipped, the rest of the population depends on the hard-pressed services of the Health Ministry, which has a budget one-third the size of the Institute.

Similarly, the new Consumer Protection Agency is an ambitious project, but in practice it is able to protect only a small number of city dwellers.

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Certainly, the government and private sector know that they do not want a labor movement such as exists in the United States and Western Europe, but they also have no clear idea of the sort of labor relations they would like in, say, 10 or 20 years. In a country that will be largely urbanized by the end of this century, with a potential work force of more than 30 million people, these questions cannot go unanswered.

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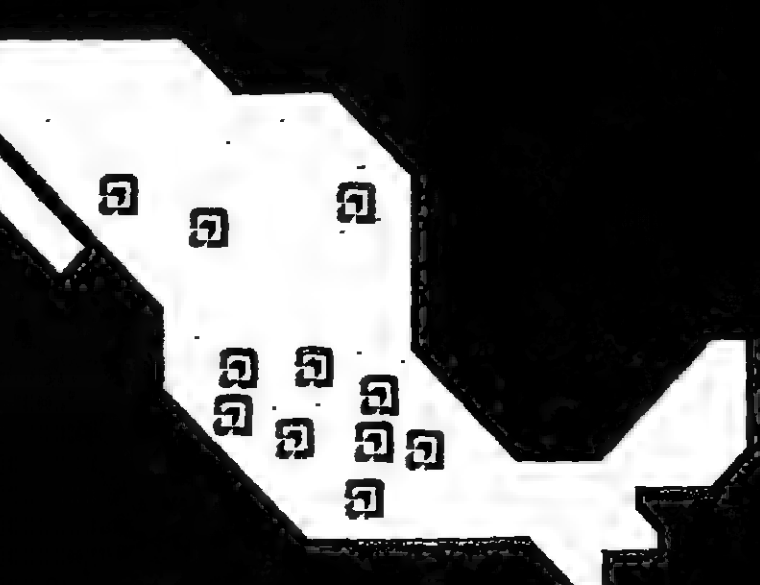
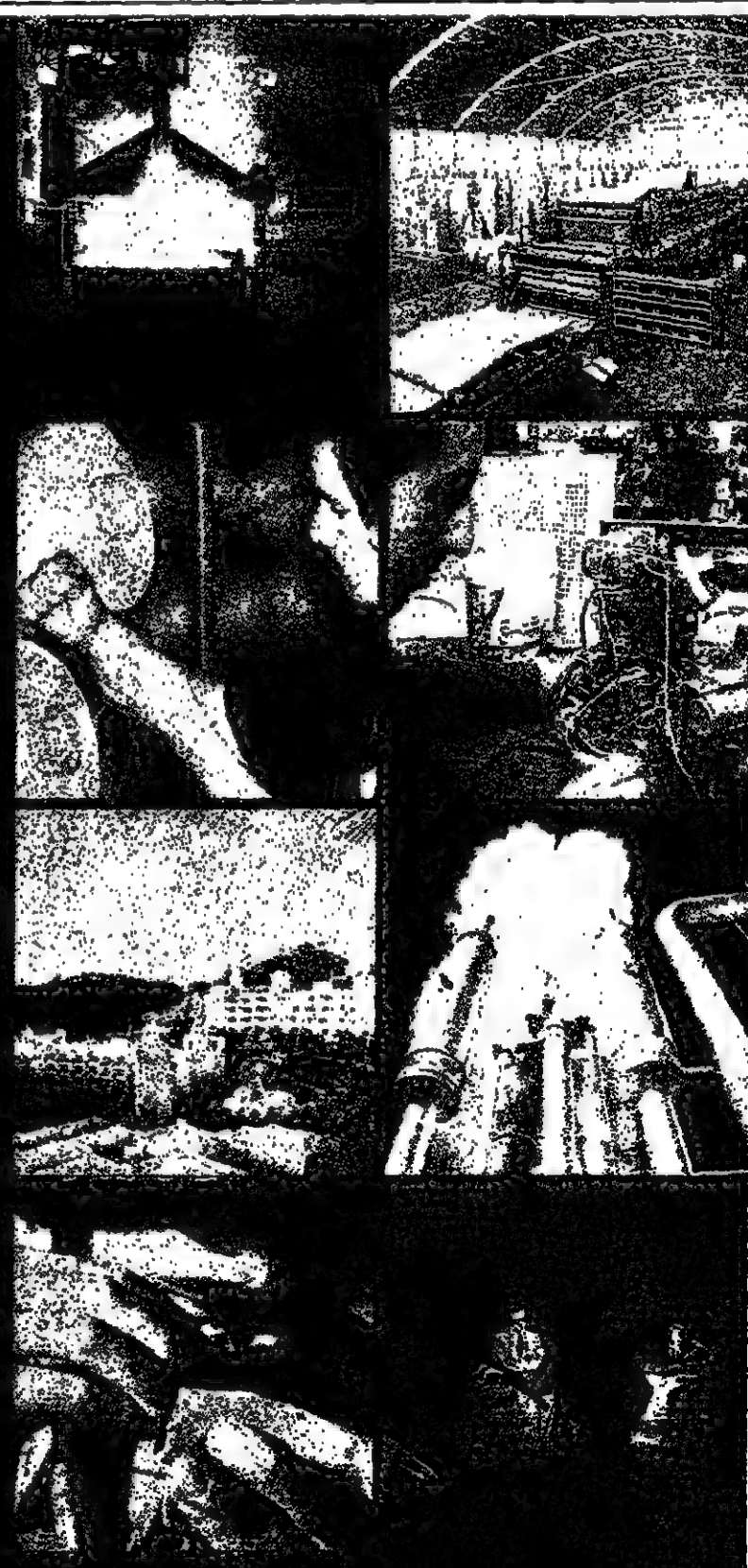
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One of Administration's First Problems—Getting Foreign Credit

MEXICO CITY (HT)—It seems even more extraordinary today than it did at the time, that foreign bankers were willing to increase Mexico's public foreign debt five-fold during the government of former President Luis Echeverría—particularly since they knew that much of the credit was financing deficit spending and not productive projects. By not conditioning their loans, in fact, foreign bankers were merely deepening the economic crisis that led in August last year to the first devaluation of the Mexican peso in 22 years. Was the money market that illiquid that Mr. Echeverría was allowed to do as he wished with the loans?

After the debacle of last fall, when some \$4 billion vanished from the country and about 5 per cent of total Mexican bank assets were withdrawn in 24 hours,

the International Monetary Fund at last stepped in to impose some order. And, almost coincidentally, President Lopez Portillo took office fully conscious that serious deflation of the economy was now unavoidable. The IMF placed a net foreign borrowing limit of \$3 billion for 1977 and \$2 billion for 1978, well below the \$5.5 billion acquired by President Echeverría last year. So one of the first problems to confront the Lopez Portillo administration was to find anyone willing to lend to Mexico.

Convincing

Sustained by an \$800-million syndicated loan and \$1.2 billion worth of credit from the IMF's special fund facility—both worked out last November—the new government decided to postpone further borrowing until foreign

confidence in Mexico had recovered. In the meantime, however, top economic officials, including Finance Minister Julio Rodolfo Motezuma Cid and Bank of Mexico director-general Gustavo Romero Kolbeck, began a series of visits to leading banks—up to now, some 400 have been visited—to explain the new administration's policies and to emphasize the country's rapidly growing oil and natural gas reserves. They were apparently convincing.

In March, placing the economy's best foot forward, the government sought a \$300-million Eurocredit for the state oil monopoly, Petroleos Mexicanos, or Pemex. The issue was oversubscribed and eventually closed at \$350 million. Since then, numerous other government agencies have successfully raised new credits or floated bond issues, among them the National Public Works Bank, the

Nacional Financiera Development Bank, the Sugar Finance Corp., the Federal Electricity Commission, Telephones of Mexico and the National Foreign Trade Bank.

By the end of June this year, Mexico's public foreign debt had reached \$20.5 billion. But since then further credits have been announced and a new syndicated loan from 33 U.S. and European banks of \$1.2 billion—Mexico's largest ever—which is to be signed Nov. 7 should raise total indebtedness to \$22.6 billion by December, with the 1978 debt servicing burden something in excess of \$5 billion.

Put while Mexico has kept within the IMF's borrowing limit during a period of deep recession, next year's \$2-billion ceiling seems unrealistic if the economy is to resume its growth—particularly in view of the massive investment requirements of the oil,

natural gas and petro-chemical sectors.

The IMF has been pleased by that fact that foreign credits—and significantly the latest \$1.2-billion package—are being dedicated to infrastructural projects and not to finance the budget deficit. The IMF's mission due here in November is therefore expected to show flexibility by allowing carefully selected foreign loans above the official limit so long as they are production-oriented.

Private Sector

Financing for the private sector is still more of a problem. Mexico's domestic banking system was seriously debilitated by the outflow of funds that accompanied the final hysterical weeks of the Echeverría administration, and this money is only slowly returning to the sector. Of the es-

timated \$4 billion withdrawn in 1975 and 1976, perhaps one-third has "returned," although much of this was merely money converted for short-term speculative reasons and was forced to return to replenish liquidity. The rest of the flight capital is either invested in real estate or fixed-term deposits in the United States, or is simply awaiting an economic recovery.

Credit is therefore tight, not only because the government is holding down money in circulation to slow inflation, but also because banks have no resources available to lend.

One of the government's primary objectives has thus been to stimulate domestic savings, both to recover last year's losses and to strengthen the entire banking system. One important factor has been the stabilization of the peso, which has prevented the attraction of high domestic interest

rates from being wiped out by new "floating" devaluations. Other measures, aimed more at the psychology than at the pocket of the potential saver, have included the minting of 100-peso silver pieces and the promotion of 10 per cent petrobonds pegged to the world price of oil and backed by Mexico's own reserves.

High Liquidity

But most significant has been a restructuring of interest rates aimed at encouraging longer-term deposits. One of the principal vulnerabilities of the banking system has been its high liquidity, with almost 50 per cent of savings held in the form of "financial bonds" negotiable on demand. The administration hopes eventually to eliminate these wholly liquid bonds, but in the meantime it has sharply raised

interest rates for periods longer than one year, reaching 18.5 per cent for periods exceeding two years. To stem the increasing amount of dollars in the domestic banking system—21 per cent of savings are now held in dollar accounts—interest rates for dollar accounts were also raised in May this year.

The result of these reforms has been a doubling of new savings in just four months, enabling the government to begin releasing funds for key sectors, notably \$25 million for producers of socially defined "basic goods"—including food—and \$185 million for small and medium-sized industries which are relatively labor-intensive in their operations. The government's own success in raising tax revenues by almost 80 per cent, higher even than the most optimistic projections, has enabled the administration to resume public-sector investment. Large-scale industry, however, is still having difficulty in raising capital for investment, with domestic interest rates high—about 24 per cent—compared to international borrowing rates, even if the funds were available here. Many Mexican companies are also carrying heavy dollar commitments acquired before the devaluation, creating payments problems which hardly entice foreign banks to increase their exposure.

'Future-Credit'

Through the Bank of Mexico and the Finance Ministry, however, the government enjoys wide powers to control both the availability and destination of credit. Most large banks—those with "multiple" financial operations—must now deposit 99.5 per cent of their liquid funds in a reserve with the Bank of Mexico, which the state can use for infrastructural investments. More recently, to reduce the temptation for Mexican companies to borrow abroad, the Bank of Mexico has also established a system of "future-credit" in which foreign exchange is deposited in the central bank as companies assume a related debt commitment in pesos. Some \$5 million worth of these "future credits" have already been approved, although, once again, the government will be selective in its permits, aiming at projects that will stimulate productivity levels, exports or employment.

Significantly absent as a source of investment capital is the Mexican Stock Exchange. Because of tepid reforms, enacted over the years, the exchange is still unable to attract Mexican savers. The stock market, suffering along with the rest of the economy, but even in its structure it remains tiny, with some 400 companies listed by only about two dozen regular active. In practice, neither small savers nor large companies turn to the stock exchange. And the banks, which would suffer were the exchange made more appealing by the enactment of fiscal measures, are happy with its status quo.

Nevertheless, given the dire situation inherited by the Lopez Portillo administration less than one year ago, its sound if austere financial management has succeeded impressively in rebuilding both foreign and domestic confidence in the economy.

Shattered Economy Has Bright Future in Rich Prospects of Oil and Gas

(Continued from Page 1.) medium-sized companies, has also suffered from the slump in demand and the loss of liquidity resulting from tight credit. Many larger companies with dollar commitments before last year's devaluation have been forced to restructure their debts, often after it was apparent that they could not meet payment obligations.

For the second year running, the Mexican economy is therefore expected to register a growth

rate in 1977 of about 2 per cent, well below the 3.2-per-cent growth in the population. Adding the factor of Mexico's poor distribution of wealth, per capita income for most Mexicans will clearly fall by much more than 1.25 per cent this year. For millions of Mexicans, in fact, the "economic recovery" has meant real hardship.

Despite the social pressures, though, President Lopez Portillo seems determined to press ahead with his economic strategy.

Through a new administrative reform, he hopes to streamline the bureaucracy and bring a greater element of planning into the government. The reform included creation of a new Ministry of Budget and Planning, while he himself has taken the initiative of forming an "inner cabinet" of all the ministers involved in the economy.

Even during the depths of the slump, though, Mr. Lopez Portillo's war cry has been for organization and productivity, per-

haps the two greatest needs of Mexico's economy. The country's peasants, farmers, long both the beneficiaries and victims of state paternalism, are being asked to forget perennial struggles over land ownership and to concentrate on producing food. The private sector, alienated and embittered by President Echeverría, is being wooed to join in the Alliance for Production. Anti-business rhetoric from government officials is now taboo and the President himself has joined

in signing ambitious joint public-private sector investment programs, including one in the northern industrial city of Monterrey, stronghold of opposition to the Echeverría regime. Finally, the huge state-owned companies and utilities, such as the oil monopoly, Pemex, the Federal Electricity Commission and the basic foods company, Conasupo, are being pressed to reduce inefficiency and corruption.

The recovery of basic confidence in the government and

even the euphoria over the nation's oil resources have not of course meant an immediate economic recovery. New investment is still slow, partly because domestic credit is tight and foreign bankers are still wary of lending to most private companies and partly because, after normal investment programs were halted during the Echeverría government, it takes time to plan and build new factories.

Signs

Nevertheless, the government is now beginning to make available more credit on a selective basis—the freedom to lend of private banks is limited by the Bank of Mexico—in response to a rise of domestic savings. In addition, after its own strict austerity during the first eight months of the year, the government is now stepping up its expenditure, concentrating naturally on the oil and natural gas industries, but also funding expansion of electricity, steel and transportation.

The first signs of new economic activity were evident in the second quarter, after a first quarter in which most economic indicators fell compared to the same period last year. In May and June, for example, automotive sales surpassed last year's levels, while even the badly hit construction industry began to recover from its January-March all-time low.

But most government economists recognize that it will be several years before Mexico recovers the 6-per-cent to 7-per-cent annual growth rates that it enjoyed for a decade after 1964. They also feel that, from the point of view of sound economic management, the government should not be tempted to over-reflate the economy once the immediate crisis has passed. "Stop-Go" policies cause greater damage when they stop than they bring benefits when they go, as several Western European countries have learned to their cost since World War II.

Rather, the economic objectives must remain controlling inflation—a beast that will demand con-

stant combat—and creating employment in productive industries. But it will also require great skill to adjust the economy to the country's new oil and natural gas wealth over the coming decade. All the economic premises of the past will require revision, new priorities must be drawn up, new development targets identified, new possibilities explored. Certainly compared to most major oil-exporting nations, Mexico already has an industrial infrastructure of significance and need not therefore start from scratch as even Venezuela would appear to be doing. In addition, having long ago nationalized its oil industry and having no interest in joining the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Mexico is exempt from the conflicts of world oil politics, its principal market near and secure north of the border.

Changes

One of the most important changes of attitude to have occurred in recent months, in fact, is the sudden awareness of Mexico's economic interdependence with—if not sheer dependence on—the United States. The simple fact of a 2,000-mile common border made it easy for Mexicans to ship their money out of the country last year and made it impractical for the government to impose exchange controls. Yet the devaluation of the peso also badly hurt the economies of the American states along the Mexican border which had long benefitted from the expenditure of Mexican border residents and the traffic of contraband to the south.

Similarly, Mexico is happy to sell its oil and natural gas to the United States and, while leftists here feel this involves deepening the country's dependence on its neighbor, it also creates a balancing dependence by the United States on Mexican energy supplies. And, if by the early eighties, Mexico is supplying 4 per cent of its gas and 5 per cent of its oil needs, then interdependence will be a reality.

Recession Reduces Trade Deficit

(Continued from Page 1.) to Switzerland, but he discovered too late that Swiss paper currency is larger than that of Mexico.

After a couple of unsuccessful efforts and considerable hassle, however, most Mexican producers prefer to forget the world and concentrate on their captive domestic market.

Many government economists in fact believe that the only way that Mexico can become export-oriented is to reduce industrial protectionism. At present, many Mexican-made products are protected by a complicated system

of import licenses which has the effect of keeping out competitive foreign products. Domestic prices are therefore allowed to rocket, not infrequently helped along by dubious oligopolistic practices. Rather than control prices directly—although it does so for staple products—the government is planning to substitute import licenses for tariffs.

This new policy will have the effect of allowing foreign-made products into the country with, say, a 30-per-cent import duty. But even with this differential, Mexican competitors will have to improve their quality and eventually, as the tariffs themselves are slowly lowered, they will have to lower their prices. They will then have the choice of becoming more efficient or going out of business. Already tariffs have been imposed for some 800 of the roughly 2,500 products that have traditionally been protected by the import license system.

There is of course considerable resistance from the private sector to these measures and it will be a test of the new government's strength to see if it follows through with its policy. Yet it is the only way that Mexican industry can achieve a level of efficiency that would make exporting attractive and viable.

The government is particularly anxious to drop protectionism for domestically made capital equipment on the rational grounds that high-priced or low-quality machinery injects inefficiencies throughout the entire manufacturing process. Similarly, new foreign investors are being offered a captive domestic market on condition that an important share of production will be destined for export, itself a guarantee of efficiency.

President Lopez Portillo's decision to allow the Mexican cur-

rency to continue to float will at least insure that prices will not get too far out of line with international levels. When the peso abandoned its 23-year-old fixed parity with the dollar in August, 1976, it was overvalued by about 40 per cent. Since then, it has floated down by 45 per cent and should continue to absorb local inflation, running this year at about 30 per cent.

Compared to these tariff and monetary decisions, fiscal incentives for export are still relatively unimportant. The Certificates for the Return of Export Taxes known here as CORTAX, have been revived on a selective basis, but nothing comparable to Brazil's system of export stimuli has yet been considered.

Yet despite the insularity of the Mexican economy, the country is in a privileged position, sharing a 2,000-mile border with the largest market in the world. It is true that the United States has an irritating array of tariff and non-tariff barriers which many Mexican exports must surmount. But producers from Taiwan or Italy or Brazil succeed in doing so and they do not have the advantage of lower freight costs.

Despite Mexico's political dream of diversifying its trade away from the United States, then, the economic logic is to concentrate its export campaign on its northern neighbor, with which it has traditionally suffered a large trade deficit. Already, the United States is the main buyer of Mexican oil, natural gas, shoes, tomatoes, shrimp, coffee, strawberries and textiles, but Mexico's relationship with the United States will only go from dependence to greater interdependence once it is also selling large quantities of manufactured and semi-manufactured products.



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Changed Mood Welcomes Foreign Investors

Mexico's market is now large and attractive enough for it to lay down basic conditions.

MEXICO CITY (UPI)—President José López Portillo's government has already demonstrated that, in foreign eyes at least, the problem with President Echeverría was not what he did, but what he said. The President's anti-business stance was mild compared to rhetoric, but both Mexican and foreign investors were duly warned away. Now, no laws have been revoked, but the mood has changed.

President Echeverría, when investors had to face new regulations, the transfer of technology, inventions and trademarks, they learned to live with more than with the atmosphere of official hostility towards private sector.

Now, even though the laws controlling their activities are still in effect, foreign investors are again being drawn to Mexico. New foreign investment reached a high of \$382.3 million in 1976, then fell to \$295 million in 1977 and to \$273.8 million last year. In the first quarter of this year, the new government set a record and investors adopted a "wait-and-see" attitude, new foreign investment was a negligible amount. In the second quarter, it jumped to \$128.4 million, evidence of a major resurgence.

Quicker

These statistics reflect the rate of approval of applications for investment permits by the National Foreign Investment Commission, showing an acceleration of bureaucratic procedures in recent months. To prevent important applications piling up, the Commission's executive secretary has now been given authority to approve new economic activities, new products, transfers among foreigners, sales by foreigners of small shares of shares and changes made by foreign investment in the commission itself, on the basis of the law.

In a large extent, the 1973 Foreign Investment Law merely brought together all the multiple laws and regulations previously existing for foreign investment. It asked, for example, that only state could participate in oil, gas, uranium, electricity, roads and telecommunications and

only Mexicans could invest in radio and television, road transportation, domestic air and maritime transportation, forestry and gas distribution.

Foreign ownership for all other new investment was limited to 49 per cent, except for reserved minerals (34 per cent) and secondary petrochemicals (40 per cent), although the commission retained the power to modify these percentages. All existing foreign investments must be registered with the commission and all new investments, acquisitions or expansions must be approved by the commission.

The key to the new law was the state's desire to channel foreign investment to sectors that contributed most to the country's development. At present, for example, an estimated 4,683 companies with foreign participation, 2,105 are in manufacturing, 919 in commerce, 777 in services and 282 in various others. The government feels little need to approve new foreign investment in commerce and service-oriented sectors. It naturally favors investment in heavy industry or in a company exporting a significant amount of its products, creating a relatively large number of jobs or helping develop depressed regions.

"We maintain an attitude of absolute respect towards foreign investment within the context of existing legislation, which will be preserved," President López Portillo said in his State of the Union address last month. "We reiterate our basic belief that it is up to the receiving nation to define the areas of activity and regulate the behavior of foreign investment."

In absolute terms, because of the state's control of the basic economy, foreign investment is not of overwhelming significance, with a total value of about \$4 billion compared to a gross domestic product of \$70 billion in 1977. But foreign investment is concentrated in certain highly visible sectors, such as automobiles, food processing and pharmaceuticals, that inflate its socio-cultural impact. Many companies, not least Chrysler, Ford and General Motors, remain 100 per cent foreign owned.

The concentration of foreign ownership in American hands also gives special significance to the investment. According to official figures, 72.3 per cent of foreign investment here is American, 5.8 per cent is West German, 4.7 per cent British, 4.2 per cent Swiss and 1.9 per cent Japanese. The American Chamber of Commerce in Mexico is the largest in the world in terms of members.

One of the drawbacks of foreign investment in developing countries is that, almost by definition, it is capital intensive. Yet most foreign investors come here in the hope of enjoying a captive domestic market. Mexico is, therefore, logically arguing that, in a nation with chronically high unemployment, capital-intensive foreign investment is generally only justified if large amounts of exports are to be produced, thus making Mexican products competitive abroad.

Domestic Market

Investors interested only in the domestic market will be expected to make available large numbers of jobs as well as prove that they are importing a special skill to the country. The period of indiscriminate import substitution is over. Most consumer products are already made in Mexico. The challenge now is to make them competitive abroad.

This is one of the objectives of the Law on the Transfer of Technology, adopted in 1973, whose premise was that Mexico was receiving foreign technology that was often too expensive and outdated and was sold with absurd restrictions on its use. The law established that all technology contracts must be presented to the National Registry of the Transfer of Technology.

They may not be approved when they involve technology already freely available here, when the price is excessive, when the purchaser of the technology must share his patents and innovations with the vendor, when they are linked to equipment sales, when they restrict freedom to export, when they control sales levels or prices and when they exceed 10 years in duration.

As with the Foreign Investment Law, protests immediately followed its approval. Companies have reluctantly come to accept it, and few independent observers would question that it is beneficial to Mexico.

More Controversial

The new Law on Inventions and Trademarks, adopted under President Echeverría and coming into effect under President López Portillo, is more controversial. It establishes a linkage provision requiring that foreign trademarks be associated with trademarks registered in Mexico, which must be in Spanish or at least phonetic Spanish, such as Gillette-Bravo and Goodyear-Oxo. The law also obliges owners of trademarks to use generic terms instead of specific trademarks or a single trademark for the same class of products, when the public interest requires.

These measures are clearly aimed at pharmaceutical companies who increase prices simply by adopting or changing a trademark. With some companies discontinuing trade here because of the law and others unlikely to meet the Oct. 17 deadline for compliance with the linkage provision, the government may soon face the dilemma of interpreting the law strictly or quietly backpedaling.

As a country so close to the United States and so vulnerable to outside influences, Mexico is understandably anxious to reaffirm its cultural as well as economic identity. The measures it has taken in the whole area of foreign investment are entirely in line with those adopted by other developing countries and recommended by different United Nations bodies.

Clearly, Mexico still needs foreign investment, as much for its modern technology as for its export capability, but its market is now large and attractive enough for it to lay down basic conditions without fear of losing capital.

A CLIFF-HANGER IN THE HOLLYWOOD TRADITION

"The Sleeping Giant Slowly Awakens"

1977 began with the Mexican economy hanging from a cliff.

Inflation, devaluation, indebtedness and a high foreign trade deficit had pushed Mexico almost over the precipice.

One of the world's fastest growing economies hung over the abyss.

Now almost 10 months later, the danger of falling over the cliff is passed and a new scenario of Mexico's future is gaining acceptance. That scenario depicts the Mexican economy rising from the depths, to new heights of growth as an emerging world oil power.

This scenario seems to be in the Hollywood tradition, but it is gradually gaining credence by sophisticated bankers and experienced industrialists.

Steady progress has already been made. The monthly increase of wholesale prices, which reached 8% in November, has been brought down sharply to only 0.7% in July. The money supply (M1) was cut down 9% by mid-year from the December 31 level. An impressive reduction of 52% in the foreign trade deficit was achieved by the end of July.

And rising higher almost every passing month of new discoveries, is the rich oil potential of Mexico. It has been compared to "the sleeping giant that slowly awakens,"

because only minor explorations have been carried out during the past 40 years in a nation that was the world's second largest petroleum producer.

In 1974, small-scale exploration was begun. Within months, new fields in Chiapas-Tabasco were discovered. Total production was more than doubled in three years. Exports began and increasing oil discoveries were made. Marine platforms off the state of Campeche are now believed to have greater reserves than those in the North Sea, and at shallow depths.

Proven reserves leaped from 6 to 11 to 14 billion barrels in three years. Probable reserves are estimated at greater than Iran's. Meantime, a gas pipeline from Tabasco to Texas is being built, which will produce sufficient gross income to almost pay in one year for the \$1.6 billion dollar cost of construction.

Some companies are waiting for the full blossom of economic recuperation and the rich oil potential in Mexico before acting. Others like CYDSA, are acting now. This was to be expected from an expansion-minded chemical group like CYDSA, whose slogan is "Anticipating the Future."

Last month, CYDSA began a \$20 million dollar venture

in Mexico to produce transparent biorented polypropylene film with technical assistance from British Cellophane Ltd. Earlier this year, the first plant in Latin America to produce TDI was inaugurated as part of a joint venture of CYDSA and Bayer, A. G., Leverkusen, Germany.

The CYDSA group includes four divisions of companies manufacturing a wide variety of products from rayon and acrylic fibers to cellophane, polyvinyl chloride, salt, propellant and refrigerant gases, chlorine, caustic soda and chemical for rubber and agriculture industries.

Noted for its advance management policies, CYDSA has also established and impressive record of growth. Net assets and sales increased respectively at annual average rates of 21% and 24% during the past decade. Currently, net assets exceed \$260 million dollars.

This rate of growth reflects the continuing expansion policy of CYDSA which while it anticipates the future is today more than ever looking for new chemical worlds to conquer.

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Petrochemicals Seek Place in World Market

MEXICO CITY (IHT).—Riding the crest of a domestic oil boom, Mexico's petrochemical industry will produce roughly twice as much this year as in 1970, and three times that amount in 1982. The government's Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex) will invest more than \$2.5 billion to triple its capacity, and the private sector, though limited to secondary petrochemicals and no more than 40-per-cent foreign equity, will not be far behind.

"The grand illusion is fast becoming reality," said Pemex petrochemical planner Cesar Bautista in a recent talk to chemical engineers. "Already we are opening plants equal in size to any in the world and building even bigger ones. We are on the way to becoming world figures in the petrochemical market—permanent exporters, not just marketers of temporary surpluses."

The program as announced this year was already partly under way when the current administration took over. Within the last two months Pemex finished its fourth gas sweetener plant in Chiapas and an important ammonia pipeline to Salina Cruz. This year as well, it inaugurates twin ammonia plants in Cosoleacaque and a polyethylene and ethylene plant in Poza Rica.

By 1982, if the ambitious plan is completed on schedule, Pemex capacity will have gone from approximately five million metric tons per year at present to 18 million; its total plants will increase from 65 at present to 120. And production, roughly four million metric tons last year, should be about 15 million.

The strategy calls for special emphasis on basic high-demand products easily marketable in international markets, such as ammonia, ethylene and basic derivatives.

"Our ammonia plant will increase from 3,000 metric tons daily production to 7,000 this year and then gradually to 13,000 metric tons daily by the end of 1982," Mr. Bautista said. "We are going to become permanent large-scale exporters."

Ethylene plans go far beyond the 182,000 mtpy (metric tons per year) plant scheduled for completion in Poza Rica in December. "We are already building a half-a-million-mtpy plant at Cancun. We will build another at Al-

lende (Veracruz) near the port at Pajaritos, and a third at a site not selected yet," Mr. Bautista said.

From a present capacity of 240,000, we will grow in six years to a two-million-metric-ton-per-year capacity, making us bigger in this product than all the rest of Latin America combined."

Capacity

Ethylene will be used to produce polyethylene in new plants totaling 200,000-mtpy high-density and 480,000-mtpy low-density polyethylene in 1982, in addition to 99,000-mtpy existing capacity for low density. It will also feed 300,000-mtpy capacity of ethylene oxide plants planned, plus 400,000-mtpy new capacity in vinyl chloride and 300,000-mtpy new capacity in acetaldehyde.

Aromatics capacity will increase from 110,000 mtpy at present to 225 million by the end of 1982, with special emphasis on paraxylene and benzene production of

340,000-mtpy new capacity and 299,000 mtpy, respectively.

To exploit abundant quantities of new natural gas, a cracking plant will produce 300,000-mtpy propylene, feedstock for a 100,000-mtpy polypropylene plant, two new acrylonitrile plants and at least one propylene oxide plant.

With all of this to highlight its primary petrochemical development, Pemex has been pushing for growing downstream industries based on private investments in secondary petrochemicals, where Mexican law allows up to 40-per-cent foreign ownership. The Lopez Portillo government's Alliance for Production program includes an agreement for \$1.05 billion private-sector investments, in return for permanent consultation with Pemex on feedstock plans and achievements.

Private-sector investment has been quick to answer the call. Private companies had accumulated investment of an estimated \$1 billion at the end of last year, with authorizations for another

\$100-million expansion in calendar year 1978.

This year operations were added up at CYDSA-Bayer's 24 mtpy toluene diisocyanate plant and at nearby Fenoximil, a partnership of Celanese Resistol (Monsanto) and Celanese, producing 125,000-mtpy polyurethane.

Polycid, a joint venture of Mexican CYDSA group and Goodrich, is planning a 104 mtpy investment in polyurethane in the same area. Guano y Fertilizantes, S.A., state fertilizer monopoly, is 500,000-mtpy urea plant program, also in Coahuila, a 330,000-mtpy plant in construction in Salamanca, Guanajuato.

Despite the increases and investments, Mexico is still an importer of petrochemical products, at the rate of 317,000 metric tons last year, mainly basic stocks. Pemex projections indicate self-sufficiency being reached sometime during 1979.

—E.R.

Country Has Giant Oil Resources

(Continued from Page 1.)

through oil, while only 37 per cent comes from hydroelectricity, geothermal power and coal. But with oil more valued than ever, the objective is for the share of oil-fired electricity to drop by 10 per cent by 1986, with 46.7 per cent of all electricity coming from hydroelectricity, coal, geothermal power and, by then, nuclear energy.

The immediate emphasis is on hydroelectric energy, with the Federal Electricity Commission rushing to complete the complex at Chilcoasen, which will have a final installed capacity of 2.4 million KW and will join the La Angostura and Malpaiso Dams as part of a hydroelectric network in the southern state of Chiapas. Even after Chilcoasen's completion, though, the hydroelectric potential of the region can still be doubled with dams projected at Tzantun, Peñitas and Boca del Cerro.

Coal

In the Northern state of Coahuila, some 250 million tons of coal deposits are to be used to fire the thermoelectric plant plan-

ned for Rio Escondido. Its initial capacity will be 1.2 million KW, rising later to 2 million KW. At Cerro Prieto in Baja California, a geothermal plant is now operating with 75,000 KW capacity, but this will be raised to 325,000 KW by 1982, while geothermal steam has been identified at Los Azules in the state of Michoacan which could support a one-million-KW plant.

The biggest disappointment so far has been the country's first thermonuclear plant at Laguna Verde in Veracruz state which, because of technical errors, is now at least four years behind schedule. With two nuclear reactors supplied by General Electric, the plant should eventually have an installed capacity of 1.3 million KW when completed in the early Eighties. With reserves of some 600,000 tons of "yellow cake" uranium, located mainly in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico should also be planning further nuclear plants for the last decade of the century.

While facing the challenge of providing electrical energy for cities and industry, the Federal Electricity Commission is also still struggling with the problem

of meeting the needs of widely scattered rural population, which still comprises 40 per cent of the country's 64-million population. At present, an estimated 25 million Mexicans do not have light in their homes, but in concentrated rural communities can be formed from tiny huts and villages, the cost of piping them will be overbearing.

From a macro-economic point of view, though, energy is not becoming the driving force Mexico's development. Irons this also occurred in the 1970s when the government subsidized oil and electricity prices in an attempt to stimulate industrialization, prior of this, however, was a fiscal crisis for both Pemex and Federal Electricity Commission. Now, with prices adjusted to levels and new supplies being available, the next challenge Mexico is to use its own energy and foreign oil revenues to transform its entire economy.

Petrochemicals, steel, fertilizers are the obvious targets for rapid expansion, but the public should work its way out of the entire economy during the next two decades.

MEXICO: A NEW MODEL FOR DEVELOPMENT

The economy at the beginning of the new administration

Mexico's Treasury Minister, Julio Rodolfo Mochizuma, recently paid a visit to New York City as the President's personal envoy to preside over the Mexican Independence Day celebration there.

As part of the event the treasury official pronounced a speech of great clarity, and in which he underscored the fact that the economic crisis Mexico has been faced with for more than a year actually harks back to much earlier developments.

When President Jose Lopez Portillo took over the reins of the government on December first, 1976, said the spokesman, the country was pressed by severe economic woes, fundamentally because the falloff at activity in the various economic sectors coincided with a high rate of inflation, a growingly unfavorable trade balance, and a deterioration of public finances, not to mention the then limited possibility of increasing private investment and the manifest flight of capital from the country, all of which culminated in the peso's devaluation of August 31st of last year. The outlook was not, however, entirely bleak, since the straightforward exposition of the country's economic situation by the President in his inaugural address received the vigorous applause of the Mexican people, certainly the best guarantee that the crisis would eventually be surmounted.

In its first ten months the new Administration in Mexico has achieved the most important of its aims in this first stage of recovery—the regaining of the people's confidence and the launching of its program to get the economy into full swing again.

Background facts of the country's stability

Until the late 1960's, Mexico had for many years held sway over the rest of Latin America as a country noted for its economic and political stability.

More than 40 years ago Mexico ceased to be ruled by strongmen, and became a nation governed on a solid institutional basis. Development was made possible mainly due to an unshakable political stability derived from a vigorous majority party. On the economic side of the picture, prices were held to moderate increases, parallel to which there were wage hikes every two years, while the peso's dollar parity remained fixed for a period of 22 years.

These key features of the country's political-economic system slowly came under pressure and eventually ended in the loss of the traditional equilibrium. Galloping inflation ensued, making it necessary to compensate for lagging workers' buying power with yearly wage hikes plus emergency increases in their take-home pay. At the same time, more and more recourse was made to foreign loans, joblessness rose, recession arrived, and finally, came currency devaluation and the flight of capital, the latter a product of distrust.

Of the underlying elements in Mexico's decades-long development record, only political stability now remains. Since the system was first established, the Institutional Revolutionary Party has invariably rested its power on its firm understanding with farm and city workers, as well as with a large number of middle class organizations representing different sectors and groups.

In the teeth of the economic crisis, the new Administration is acutely aware that the sway of the ruling party could be seriously threatened should it not widen its grass roots backing and participation by channeling popular demands within Mexico's democratic framework. As a first step aimed at maintaining stability a political reform project was proposed and implemented in order to bring off present currents of Mexican political thought into organized and free play. In accordance with this, reform finally harnesses a larger role in the legislative branch of government of thirty political groups representing the country's major divisions of public opinion.

Organizing to organize

The Mexican public sector has undergone swift growth and great diversification in recent decades, very notably in the area of state-owned companies, in order to cover and fully meet the new needs created by the country's economic development. However, the development and growth of the federal administrative machinery did not escape operational efficiency problems, which in turn translated themselves into wastage of resources, duplicity of function and less-than-satisfactory coordination in governmental actions.

Thus, from the very first days of his administration, President Lopez Portillo, convinced that organization is best achieved through getting organized, has pressed forward the Administrative Reform which has already modified procedures previously regarded as inalterable and which has encouraged the government to take firm steps in the direction of innovation in the area of administrative systems. This experience has resulted in the passage by Congress of the new Federal Public Administration Law.

This Reform is considered by the government as one of the changes needed to bring about the basic transformation the country is demanding at this point of its development. It is conceived, as well, as a permanent and systematic effort to make the moves taken by public sector agencies more rational and dynamic.

The goal is to forge the complex governmental apparatus into an effective instrument of clearly defined areas of responsibility in which federal decision-making actually leads to the results demanded by the Mexican public.

The Reform provides for an overall, participative type of planning mechanism covering federal efforts which range from the generation of information to the assessment and constant re-hauling of individual and group tasks.

Administrative units were thus organized on the basis of sectors of activity, this in an attempt to force the capacities of the various units to dovetail and lend themselves to a congruent overall plan which at once is able to relieve the pressures brought to bear by the present crisis and establish the structural changes needed for further development—all within duly budgeted and financed programs.

The present government also seeks to institutionalize the programming actions taken by federal officials, set up a priorities system with specific objectives and goals which are understandable, and therefore viable, for both public servants and the general public.

Economic and social programming is the government's main tool, in view of which policy makers are anxious to establish a permanent link between ends and means in order to guarantee that programs be carried out as planned toward specific goals.

Consequently, agencies directing under the executive branch have been grouped into units responsible for given sectors, each being in charge of the planning and carrying out of the policies to be followed in individual sectors of activity. The units are empowered to coordinate decentralized agencies, state-owned companies and trust funds within the sector charged to each.

Alliance for production

With its economic policy the new Administration has shown its decision and optimism by launching a development program in which the greater social good and increased production are the main goals.

In order to re-establish an atmosphere of confidence and encourage production efforts, the President has called on all productive sectors to join forces within the framework provided by so-called Alliance for Production, an instrument with which the Administration aims to achieve the responsible participation of the Mexican people in surmounting the present crisis. The purpose of the Alliance is to reach a steady development rate on the basis of increases in productivity and to achieve improved living conditions for the population in general through a more equitable distribution of regional and individual income.

The government launched a number of sectorial programs included in its overall program in order to give the actions of the public and private sectors orientation and a framework within which to take place.

Meanwhile, as an immediate aim of its development strategy, the government is bent on slowing the inflationary process, reducing the deficit in the trade balance, straightening out public finances, taking in and allotting sufficient funds for top priority activities, and consolidating the foundations of real economic development.

The ultimate objective of the Alliance is to keep prices and wages in balance, in part, as the inflationary spiral flatters, to help out the lower income sectors of the populace, and in part to facilitate productive investment, job creation and rational use of available resources by high-income groups.

Every sector in the country responded favorably to this appeal made by the Alliance for Production. Workers moved in a high spirit of cooperation, with the bigger labor unions calling a trace in their wage demands; farmers are aware that the most important thing for them is to organize in order to produce more; management has accepted its own responsibilities in the crisis

by promising to increase output and productivity while creating new jobs; merchants are supporting the Alliance through a more efficient distribution of goods; and the government has reorganized to carry out its tasks more efficiently.

New financial system

The Mexican economy operates within a mixed system of state and private participation in which the government produces the essential items and private initiative works in a wide variety of fields. The present Administration has very clearly defined this situation in stating that it is the role of the state to determine the overall dynamics of the economy. This involves the direct subordination of public spending to the nation's scale of priorities and the orientation of private sector activity to meeting those priorities by accentuating higher production levels and maximizing economies.

This was the purpose behind the government's designing and implementing an overall program, which brings the sectorial programs together into an all-embracing federal scheme of action.

In order to achieve the objectives foreseen in the overall government program and reach the more immediate goals of economic policy, it became absolutely necessary to revamp the financial system with an eye to increasing federal revenues—mainly in Mexican currency—allotting resources to priority sectors and solving the problems brought on by the flight of capital and operations in dollars.

To reach these goals new financial mechanisms were created, and those established but still operative were strengthened. On May 23rd, 1977, new interest rates were put into effect as a premium for domestic savings. The new rates on peso deposits came to as much as 16 per cent per annum in the case of two-year deposits.

Interest rates applicable to intake in foreign currency were also raised, bringing them to the level prevailing in the Eurodollar market; the high interest rates previously enjoyed by big savers were extended to small investors; to the multiple or composite banks to cut costs and increase competition among them; and reserve requirements have been shaved down in order to funnel a greater volume of savings into investment projects.

Other measures include the savings and market placement of new savings instruments such as the petroleos, which are profit sharing certificates guaranteed on the basis of the country's oil resources. In another step gold coins were issued in order to slow down the process of trading pesos for dollars.

To make needed funds more available to corporations, the National Securities Commission was strengthened further. While maintaining that agency's regulatory and monitoring functions, the idea is to establish it as a developer of the securities market's variable income potential, for which purpose brokerages were granted preferential tax treatment. Furthermore, corporations were given authorization to issue signature-guaranteed bonds through the stock market if they can show proof of their financial stability.

In order to align government finances with Mexico's developmental goals, at the close of 1976 Congress passed the Public Debt Law, where requirements and standards are set forth for the public sector as concerns the obtaining and use of loans, particularly those contracted abroad.

In accordance with the aims of the government's program, the net foreign debt expected for 1977 will be about one half the total for 1976, thus marking the beginning of a process of more generation and greater utilization of domestic savings. Efforts have also been made to improve the overall makeup of the foreign debt.

As concerns the exchange rate, the new Administration decided that it should be just one more instrument within the general scheme for financing development, rather than the point on which production hinges. It has therefore been considered convenient to maintain the fluctuation of the peso for as long as needed, particularly in view of the fact that this is an ideal means of discouraging speculative operations and reducing dollar transactions in the banking system.

In outlining his policy during his inaugural address, President Lopez Portillo said that the time had come to abandon what he called a "fictional economy." A fundamental part of the return to a realistic approach has been the fight against persistent operations in dollars, a heavy burden for the investor forced to use funds in their currency because of the risk added by his projects. This is unfair, the President has pointed out, since the investor is the most useful and risk-taking element in the economic process.

With the purpose of putting a stop to speculation against the peso and speeding up non-dollar operations the double quotation system was implemented in the dollar exchange market, distinguishing, however, between quotations for operations in cash and operations with documents. As of July 11th of this year, Mexico's central bank has charged 15 centavos for each dollar given in support of the commercial banks, and it was later decided that the central bank would take the exchange risks involved in dollar loans for industry.

An anti-inflationary policy has been indispensable to brighten the outlook for consumers and the saving public, hold down speculation on the exchange market and help the Mexican currency to play a fuller role in the attraction and channeling of funds.

All these moves have led to a notable reduction in price increases. The alarmingly high rates of increase reached last October and November—84 per cent—have been pulled down to 0.7% and 2.8%, respectively, in the first two months of the second semester this year.

The Mexican economy, after having run into serious problems in 1976 when there was little growth in industrial activity and a no-growth result in agriculture, is showing signs that the worst of the crisis is behind: the productive machinery is making adjustments and returning to normalcy, the inflation rate is down, there have been no sudden or erratic changes in the peso float, and intake by the banks is rising with the peso making up an ever larger part of the total.

Another cheering signpost in the general re-accommodation of the economy has been the continuous inflow of foreign capital because of the country's political stability and, more important still, thanks to the clarity of the official rules as concerns the how and the where of opportunities. Foreign investment is indeed welcome within the framework of Mexican law.

Oil

The exploitation of Mexico's petroleum resources has come to be one of the key pivots in the present economic recovery, both because that industry supplies raw materials to manufacturers and because demand for energetics is now good in international markets.

Recent discoveries of petroleum deposits insure full supply of energetics to meet domestic needs and guarantee a surplus for exportation. Proved reserves now stand at 14 billion barrels, and ultimate potential is placed at 60 billion barrels, thus making Mexico one of the major oil countries in terms of reserves. At present crude output has reached the 1.1 million barrels per day level, and by 1982 daily production is expected to be more than two million barrels.

The Mexican government is keenly aware that the country's economy must not rest on oil alone. However, it estimates that sales of that product and its derivatives will be a solid support for improving the balance-of-payments situation.

This is why a gas pipeline is scheduled for construction between the southern state of Chiapas and the northeastern state of Tamaulipas. The project will supply gas to several large industrial zones and facilitate exports of surpluses to the United States with transportation costs kept at a minimum.

The outlook

A number of factors joined in the first semester of this year that helped and the economic standstill. Overall demand is up. More and more credit is becoming available, thanks to the new intake instruments. Price increases, meanwhile, are slower, whereas there has been an improvement in the current account and in the performance of public finances.

Also lending support to the new economic scenario has been the opening up of new oil fields, meaning that earnings from crude exports will begin to flow in in the not-distant future.

The results of the program-mindedness of the Administration and of its many recent moves, including, for instance, the Public Administration Law, have all helped the public sector to streamline its activities. Last but not least, Mexico's stable political climate has lent itself to a closer understanding among the different sectors of the population, while also encouraging their united effort, a fact which will be further strengthened by the government's Reform Policy.

Yet the economic scene is not to date one of total solutions. Mexico is aware, rather, that they must work even harder together in order to eventually achieve a better economic and social situation.

هكذا من الأمل



A Dynamic Financial System Boosts Growth

SAO PAULO (IPT).—One of the most significant achievements of the "Brazilian miracle" is the creation, often with daring and imagination, of a dynamic financial system. The system effectively mobilizes domestic savings, distributes capital, and provides the monetary authorities with mechanisms to direct development and control the level of economic activity.

The importance of this accomplishment should not be underestimated. Pouring in money is not enough to get a less developed economy onto a sustained growth path if the investment is not accompanied by institutional development to sustain the momentum. The growth of Brazil's financial system is a vital part of its rush to escape poverty.

But the system is still developing, often pushed by government fiat into new moulds. "We have seen, under this government, less spectacular growth but some of the most significant legislation developing new institutions," says Donald Pearson, the Midland Bank representative in Brazil.

The Development

Although most of the parts which now comprise the system existed—at least in name—by the early 1960s, they were inadequate for a rapidly developing economy. Traditional family-owned commercial banks dominated the system and their deposits financed their own ventures rather than the needs of industry and commerce.

Real financial development

dates from 1964-65 with the Bank Reform Law, the Capital Markets Law, and the creation of the monetary correction indexing system in order to moderate the effects of inflation. In the time since, a stock market, a money market, a savings system, the Banco Central and a series of institutions including investment (mercantile) banks, finance companies, and development banks have been put on a solid working foundation.

They have not been cheap. Finance Minister Mario Henrique Simonsen has estimated that rescue operations to shore up failing institutions or pay off their debts have cost well over \$2 billion, of which about half is unrecovered, but their contribution to Brazil's economic growth is immeasurable.

Focus

The result is a mixed system of public and private enterprise in which the state's agents, the Banco Central, the Banco do Brasil, the National Economic Development Bank (BNDE), the National Housing Bank (BNH), and the Federal Savings Bank (CEF), are the heavyweights.

Specialisation is an important characteristic. The original model divided capital sources among different types of institutions and placed some control over the use of funds. As the system grew from paper to reality, distortions and abuses pushed the monetary authorities, who were in the process of establishing control, to

increase the level of specialisation.

Specialisation creates problems by introducing rigidities—the housing finance system, for example, now attracts more money than it can apply—but Horacio de Mendonça Neto, head of IBMEC, the capital market training and research institute, argues that specialisation focused the system on new areas and developed new skills.

Recently, financial conglomerates composed of several different types of institutions and supported ideologically by the Banco Central have been organised.

The success of the model has been remarkable. Brazil raised domestically vast amounts of savings, and the financial system has played a key role in the flow of close to \$28 billion in foreign capital to Brazilian banks. Partly as a result of financial development, gross fixed capital formation increased from 18.5 per cent of gross national product in 1965 to 25.7 per cent in 1975.

IBMEC's Mr. Mendonça says, "One of the essential problems of any financial system is how to raise long-term financing for companies. With the internationally recognized creativity of the Brazilian authorities, we found a solution in forced savings." The solution, however, brings problems.

Stock Market

Forced savings programs may inhibit voluntary savings, and the government is now virtually the

only domestic source of long-term financing. The private sector constantly howls about increasing state control.

The Geisel government has taken important steps to develop the stock market, notably by strengthening institutional investors in order to bring more funds and sophisticated analysis to buy and sell decisions. More important in the long run, it revised the antiquated Corporations Law and created the Comissão de Valores Mobiliários, CVM, similar to France's Commission des Opérations de Bourse and America's Securities and Exchange Commission.

The market, because of these reforms, can now become an important source of capital for more firms and the experts say it is warming up for a take-off. This may be important to Europeans because one of the institutional reforms opened Brazilian markets to foreign investors and although the response has not been great—about \$50 million—much of it has been raised in Europe.

The money market, known in Brazil as the "open" market, has also received official attention. It trades mostly government papers and short-term money and, from the government's point of view, it is an important vehicle for controlling the money supply.

Several market operators tried to take advantage of the government's mismanagement of the money supply in 1976 and nearly went bankrupt. The Banco Central, fearing the loss of confidence a series of failures would have caused, moved first with rescue operations and then with clean-up reforms which have established a solid basis for the execution of the government's monetary policy.

Monetary Correction

To control inflation which was running at 50 per cent for the first half of 1977, the government was forced to blend monetary policy with a series of other measures, including changes in the monetary correction indexing system, one of Brazil's most important financial innovations.

Finance Minister Simonsen argues that monetary correction builds in inflation and has made two attacks on the index. The first gave the government the freedom to exclude price increases deemed caused by unusual phenomena such as frosts or floods, and the second allows it to decrease the weight of a product in the index when its price rises too quickly. Both modifications allow the government to arbitrarily set monetary correction below the rate of inflation so that debts and those prices—such as rents—which are adjusted according to the monetary correction index, lag behind instead of retreating inflation.

Price increases are now dipping below the 40-per-cent per year level.

—M.P.

—K.F.

Government Handling of Economy

BRASILIA (IPT).—The Brazilian economy is at last beginning to emerge from the worst traumas of the oil crisis. Thanks to soaring coffee prices and a savage clampdown on imports, the country might register a trade surplus this year. A smaller balance of payments deficit is anticipated, there is less heavy reliance on foreign borrowing than a year ago and there are a first signs that inflation is beginning to subside. The price has been a cutback in the government's ambitious spending programs and a slowdown in industrial production growth.

Brazil is not out of the woods yet. If the 1975 frosts in the state of Paraná have enabled the Brazilians to demand almost any price for their coffee this year, the phenomenon looks like a short-lived one—despite vigorous coffee buying by Interbras, the state coffee trading organization. As the country's trade balance improves, growing pressures can be expected from other countries for a liberalization of present import restrictions.

Facing growing complaints from the country's business community and congressional elections in a year, the government may well be tempted to relax its anti-inflation policies, although with much of the substitution program in raw materials and capital equipment well under way the worst should now be over.

Overheated

When the Geisel government took office in 1974, it inherited not only the impact of the oil crisis, but also the consequences of an overheated economy. Between 1973 and 1974, the country's oil bill quadrupled to nearly \$3 billion. Imports actually doubled to some \$12 billion. With the economy turning at over 10 per cent a year, staggering increases were registered in the imports of fertilisers, chemicals, steel, nonferrous metals, plastics and capital goods. Inflation was creeping up again, and the foreign debt had reached \$12 billion.

Now, after four years in power, the government has turned 1974's trade deficit of \$4.5 billion into what is expected to be a small surplus in 1977. With imports holding at the same level for three years in a row, foreign borrowing has fallen to some \$4 billion a year from the \$7 billion reached in 1976 and 1976. Economic growth has been irregular with rates ranging from 4 to 9 per cent. Debt servicing has soared to some \$4 billion a year from \$2.5 billion in 1973 as the foreign debt has increased to \$30 billion from \$12 billion. Inflation is only now beginning to subside after reaching 46 per cent last year.

During this period, the government has launched enormous investment programs aimed at reducing its dependency on raw material and capital equipment imports, attracted \$1 billion in foreign investments every year and maintained its ambitious export efforts.

Controversial

The government's handling of the economy has, however, been controversial. When most other countries were trembling at the implications of the oil crisis, the Brazilians still believed they would not be affected by it. By passing on the oil price increases to the consumer and slapping on enormous import tariffs, the government unleashed the biggest inflation wave since the early 1960s.

Positive and Negative

All too often critics will single out the negative features of a policy without recognizing the positive ones. A slowdown in the economy might have been desirable, but how was the government then going to supply the million new jobs required each year for young people entering the job market, finance improved welfare services and push ahead with the development of the poorer regions of the country? A less restrictive policy on imports or a more moderate approach

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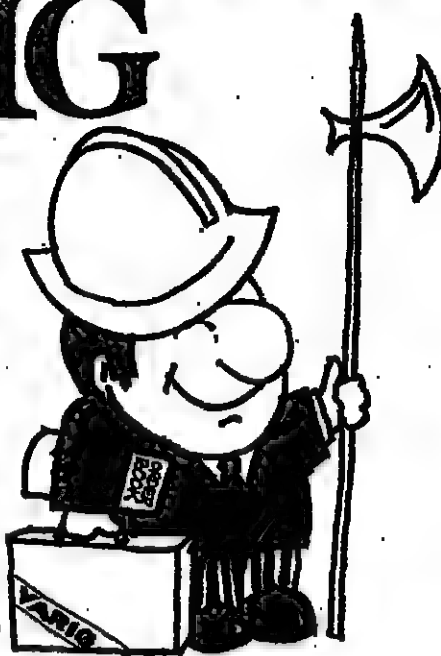


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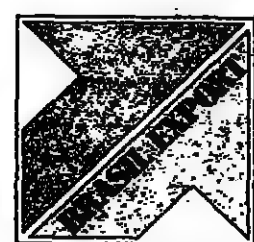
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مكتبة الزمان



Energy: Hopes Lie in the Long Term as Nation Develops Resource

BRASILIA (DET).—When the Middle East oil producers raised their prices four years ago, they placed Brazil in an extremely difficult position. Here was the only major landmass which was not producing important quantities of oil and gas in the middle of an industrial development program that could only lead to a greater dependence on hydrocarbon imports.

The supply of firewood, which once accounted for almost half the country's energy requirements, was not increasing. Coal resources were extremely limited. The new industries that were growing up were heavy consumers of fuel oil. Communications within this huge country have been based on road and air traffic rather than rail and river transportation, and the emerging middle class was snapping up the cars produced by the fast-growing automobile industry.

By 1973, oil consumption already totaled 37 million tons, 46 per cent of all energy requirements, and by 1985 it is expected to reach as much as 67 million tons.

More than 80 per cent of that oil must be imported. Brazil's oil bill soared from \$470,000 in 1972 to \$3.8 billion in 1976.

Price Increases

Oil went from little more than 10 per cent of the country's import bill in 1972 to more than 30 per cent last year.

As if this was not enough, the government decided to pass on these price increases to the consumer and so sparked off an inflation spiral reminiscent of the days before the army takeover. In addition, domestic oil production had leveled off at around eight million tons a year since 1969, and the rate of oil discoveries suggested that even this production could not be maintained for very long. Coal production was minimal, and the limited reserves of poor quality. The country's first nuclear plant was not even functioning. Hydroelectric energy offered tremendous potential, but harnessing it was becoming increasingly costly because power stations had to be

built on rivers farther and farther away from the main consumption centers.

So it was hardly surprising that an oil discovery in 1975 in the Campos basin not far from Rio de Janeiro was heralded by the government as if it were the country's salvation.

Brazil's energy situation appeared more serious because of government policies. Other countries heavily dependent on oil imports have cut back growth to

solve their inflation and balance of payments problems. Brazil initially tried to ride out the crisis. Rather than endanger the million jobs needed each year for the country's fast-growing population, the government maintained a high-growth policy. At the same time, it launched massive investments in the hydroelectric and oil sectors that were bound to strain the country's financial resources and further aggravate the trade deficit. Only

during the last year has the government been forced to recognize that it cannot achieve everything at once.

Improved

However, the situation has already improved. Offshore exploration launched by Petrobras in the late 1960s is at last paying off with a series of discoveries in the Campos basin. Development may be taking longer than origi-

nally expected, but Brazilian oil production will now at least be maintained, if not increased. Special provisions have been made to facilitate the purchase of foreign equipment for the field, and the government has agreed for the first time to allow foreign oil companies to explore offshore on a risk-contract basis. Under the first series of contracts, British Petroleum, Exxon, Shell and the ELF/AGIP consortium acquired exploration rights. Applications

from some 15 companies are under consideration for a second concession round.

Too Soon

It is too soon to judge how effective the oil exploration and development program will be. The government now figures that the country's oil production could reach as much as 79 million tons in 1986 and make Brazil self-sufficient. It expects to reach 26

million tons as a minimum. Progress in the coal sector has been modest, with annual output still little more than three million tons. Exploration found that coal reserves in the south total at least 30 billion tons—10 times previous estimates. Another 60 billion tons of lignite is lying in the Amazon. Brazilian coal is not of very good quality, but great hopes are being placed on a giant gasification plant being built at Porto Alegre.

Perhaps the most solid achievements have been made in electricity. Huge investments in hydroelectric dams have increased total generating capacity to 15,000 in 1973, virtually all growth coming from hydro opposed to thermal units, now represent only 15 per cent of the total. Because of projects such as the Tucuru, on the Tocantins River, the world's largest dam, the 12,800 megawatt power, on the Parana River, hydro capacity will have by the late 1980s.

With new water power increasingly from far-off, Eletrobras will be turning to nuclear-generated electricity in the main consuming areas. This is why the Brazilian government signed its contract with the Westinghouse to build eight 1,300-megawatt reactors by the 1990. The first Brazilian reactor actually to produce electricity will be a 636-megawatt Westinghouse reactor due on stream next year. The German plants will be ready by about 1983.

Slowdown

The other major concern factor is the slowdown in consumption. Although oil consumption grew at 10 per cent a year between 1971 and 1976, the next five years it is expected to increase no more than 2 per cent as a result of the slow economic growth, the inflation of energy-saving use and the switch to other sources.

Brazil's main hopes still lie much in the long term. If it makes no major oil discoveries, it will always maintain an edge over other countries in the electricity field. It is expected to have as much as 1 megawatt of potential power available. And in the clear field, recent discoveries of uranium and thorium suggest the country will one day be self-sufficient in this sector, especially if it moves onto fast-breeder reactors. The government is also placing great hopes on using sugar as fuel.

Trade Surplus Is Brought Into Sight During a Record Year

(Continued from Page 1.)

export performance has been impressive. Basics such as coffee, soy, and sugar lead the list, but iron ore and a whole mix of other agricultural products bring a total export figure of some \$7 billion.

Perhaps more remarkable has been the growth of industrial goods, which now form 35-40 per cent of the whole. In 1973, only 23 per cent of the total were non-basics. This sector is now led by automotive products and shoes and textiles, with a whole range of machinery (mostly low technology) and even services (notably transport and construction) making up the rest.

The major multinational automotive manufacturers operate in Brazil, and exports of motor vehicles and parts have risen from \$43 million in 1968 to \$514 million last year. Exports of \$700 million are anticipated this year, boosted by sales of tractors to Africa. General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, and VW—and more recently Fiat as well as truck manufacturers SAAB-Scania and Mercedes-Benz—are all here.

Engines and parts shipped from Brazil are used in factories around the world. Brazil has also been successful in selling complete vehicles to African, Middle East and Asian markets.

Textiles and shoes have been another area of extremely rapid growth. From only \$17 million ten years ago, export sales of textiles amounted to \$397 mil-

lion last year. Shoe exports were worth \$190 million last year, compared with only \$8 million in 1970.

Energy Imports

As Western Europe has discovered, if there is a major energy gap, it does not matter how dynamic the economy is if most of the energy for growth has to be imported. And this is the case of Brazil. Although Brazil has abundant hydroelectric resources, the country produces only 20 per cent of its needed oil, and the whole of its transport system is based on costly trucking. Besides oil, Brazil still imports large amounts of fertilizers and more than 60 per cent of its non-ferrous metals, notably copper and aluminum. For although its economy has rapidly advanced in some respects, expansion has been led by the consumer industries, notably motor and textiles. Only recently has the heavy goods sector begun to contribute to the economy.

Brazil's success in undercutting local manufacturers in markets in the developed world—and in some cases wiping them out—has brought about a new and potentially dangerous situation for the country. For what Brazil can do, so can the next low-cost producer to emerge from the Third World. Brazil's markets are now being threatened by products from Southeast Asia, and undoubtedly some African competitors will emerge before long.

Faced with growing unemployment in their own economies, the developed countries are looking for new ways to curb imports from countries such as Brazil. They are examining Brazil's various incentives and tax relief schemes to discover if these measures transgress GATT or other regulations.

Faced with stagnation in Western European and North American markets, Brazil is now working to develop new markets in Africa, the Middle East and Eastern bloc countries.

This year has been an exceptional one for two of Brazil's major products—coffee and soybeans. Because of the frost two years

ago and the consequent shortage of fresh coffee beans, the limited stocks increased enormously in value and brought a massive windfall profit to Brazil. In the first half of this year, coffee earned \$2.15 billion, compared with \$2.2 billion for the whole of last year.

Brazil still has a lot to learn in commodity trading, however, and large amounts of money have been lost as well as made. Bankruptcies have not been unknown in the coffee wholesale business, with dealers caught out when the price dropped.

The harsh winter in the northern hemisphere and low North American stocks forced the price

of soy to very high levels in the first quarter of this year. But lack of experience as well as greed resulted in a serious miscalculation being made. Brazilian farmers and wholesalers held too long onto stocks. At least a million tons of soybeans—out of a total export quota of three million tons—still remain unsold.

On the other hand, other nations with wide open spaces, such as Argentina and some African countries, are beginning to plant soy in a big way, so the golden years may be over for Brazil.

With the prospect of a bumper crop in the United States well above last year's, the price has

Foreign Debt High but Controlled

(Continued from Page 1.)

least five years and come with a two-and-a-half-year grace period to ensure that payments are well spread out.

But other factors are also important in explaining the banks' eagerness to lend to Brazil.

Brazil is paying top interest rates, which start at 17.5 per cent per year over LIBOR, higher than countries such as Argentina and Colombia are paying.

Moreover, international banks have a great deal of money on hand. The slow economic recovery in Europe and the United States has kept demand for loans low,

and Baring Brothers managing director R.D.C. McAlpine said in Sao Paulo recently, "Brazil has been able to borrow so successfully this year because of international liquidity."

Perhaps these factors are leading bankers to place more confidence in the indicators of Brazil's economic improvement than they ought. The balanced trade account is due largely to extremely high coffee prices—coffee earned \$2.4 billion in the first eight months of this year, equal to its total receipts for 1976. But coffee prices are way down now and Brazil is not selling a pound.

Close to 60 per cent of Brazil's exports are agricultural and primary products whose prices fluctuate wildly. If their fortunes

decline, the bright trade prospects will quickly fade.

Another factor of vital importance is the cost of borrowing. Chase Manhattan Bank calculates that a two-per-cent rise in interest rates would cost Brazil as much as a 13-per-cent increase in the cost of oil—Brazil imports 80 per cent of its petroleum. When will rates rise?

However, as Exim Bank's Mr. Bein points out, countries do not go broke and the worst that usually happens is that banks have to wait a little longer to get their money back.

In Brazil's case, they will certainly get their money back, and if they do have to wait, they will be collecting their high interest rates all the while.



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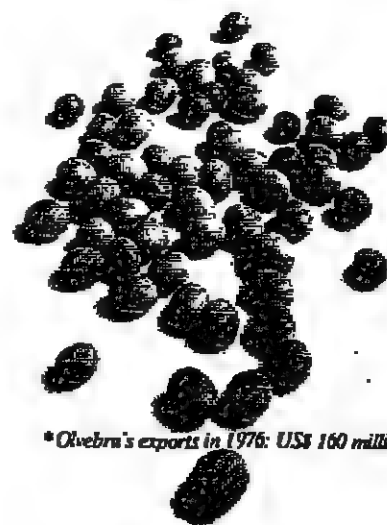
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* Olvebra's exports in 1976: US\$ 160 million.





A Dynamic Financial System Boosts Growth

SOUR PAULO (HERT)—One of the most significant achievements of the Brazilian miracle is the creation of a dynamic financial system. The system effectively mobilizes domestic savings, directs them into productive investment, and provides the necessary capital to drive development. It also helps to control the level of economic growth.

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The Geisel government has taken important steps to develop the stock market, notably by strengthening institutional investors in order to bring more funds and sophisticated analysis to buy and sell decisions. More important in the long run, it revised the antiquated Corporations Law and created the Comissão de Valores Mobiliários, CVM, similar to France's Commission des Opérations de Bourse and America's Securities and Exchange Commission.

The market, because of these reforms, can now become an important source of capital for more firms and the experts say it is warming up for a take-off. This may be important to Europeans because one of the institutional reforms opened Brazilian markets to foreign investors and although the response has not been great—about \$50 million—much of it has been raised in Europe.

The money market, known in Brazil as the "open" market, has also received official attention. It trades mostly government papers and short-term money and, from the government's point of view, it is an important vehicle for controlling the money supply.

Several market operators tried to take advantage of the government's mismanagement of the money supply in 1976 and nearly went bankrupt. The Banco Central, fearing a loss of confidence, a series of failures would have caused, moved first with rescue operations and then with clean-up reforms which have established a solid base for the execution of the government's monetary policy.

Monetary Correction

To control inflation which was running at 50 per cent for the first half of 1977, the government was forced to blend monetary policy with a series of other measures, including changes in the monetary correction indexing system, one of Brazil's most important financial innovations. Finance Minister Simoes argues that monetary correction builds in inflation and has made two attacks on the index. The first gave the government the freedom to exclude price increases deemed caused by unusual phenomena such as frosts or floods, and the second allows it to decrease the weight of a product in the index when its price rises too quickly. Both modifications allow the government to arbitrarily set monetary correction below the rate of inflation so that debts and those prices—such as rents—which are adjusted according to the monetary correction index, lag behind instead of reflecting inflation.

Price increases are now dipping below the 40-per-cent per year level.

Slowdown Although most of the parts of the system are now in place, the system is still developing. It is not yet a fully developed economy. The system is still developing. It is not yet a fully developed economy. The system is still developing. It is not yet a fully developed economy.

Government Handling of Economy

BRASILIA (HERT)—The Brazilian economy is at last beginning to emerge from the traumas of the oil crisis. The country is now able to export coffee prices at a level that allows it to make a surplus this year. A balance of payments deficit is anticipated, there is less reliance on foreign borrowing than a year ago and there are first signs that inflation is being tamed. The price of coffee has risen in the government's spending program and a slowdown in industrial production growth.

It is not out of the woods yet. The 1978 frost in the state of Paraná has enabled Brazilians to demand almost twice the price for their coffee this year, the phenomenon looks like short-lived one—despite vigorous coffee buying by Interbras, the state coffee trading organization. As the country's trade balance improves, growing pressures can be expected from other countries for a liberalization of import restrictions.

Overheated

When the Geisel government took office in 1974, it inherited not only the impact of the oil crisis, but also the consequences of an overheated economy. Between 1973 and 1974, the country's oil bill quadrupled to nearly \$10 billion. Imports actually doubled to some \$12 billion. With the economy turning at over 10 per cent a year, staggering increases were registered in the prices of fertilizers, chemicals, steel, nonferrous metals, plastics and capital goods. Inflation was creeping up again, and the foreign debt had reached \$12 billion. Now, after four years in power, the government has turned the trade deficit of \$4.5 billion into what is expected to be a small surplus in 1977. With imports holding at the same level for three years in a row, foreign borrowing has fallen to some \$4 billion a year from the \$7 billion reached in 1975 and 1976. Economic growth has been irregular, with rates ranging from 4 to 10 per cent. Debt servicing has increased to some \$4 billion a year from \$2.5 billion in 1973 as the foreign debt has increased to \$30 billion from \$12 billion. Inflation is only now beginning to subside after reaching 46 per cent last year.

During this period, the government has launched enormous investment programs aimed at reducing its dependency on raw materials and capital equipment imports, attracted \$1 billion in foreign investments every year and maintained its ambitious export efforts.

Controversial

The government's handling of the economy has, however, been controversial. When most other countries were trembling at the implications of the oil crisis, the Brazilians still believed they would not be affected by it. By passing the oil price increases to the consumer and slapping on enormous import tariffs, the government unleashed the biggest inflation

When budget resources were already strained and the foreign debt uncomfortably high, the government threw itself into huge investments aimed at securing energy independence and self-sufficiency in raw materials and capital goods.

With little coordination between the various ministries, no serious attempt to relate projects to available resources and growing bureaucratic interference, the whole economic system was threatened. By refusing to accept a slowdown in economic growth at the beginning, the government is now being forced to take much more drastic measures than would have been otherwise necessary.

Positive and Negative

All too often critics will single out the negative features of a policy without recognizing the positive ones. A slowdown in the economy might have been desirable, but how was the government then going to supply the million new jobs required each year for young people entering the job market, finance improved welfare services and push ahead with the development of the poorer regions of the country? A less restrictive policy on imports or a more moderate approach

towards import substitution might have made better economic sense and placed less strain on the trade balance and foreign lenders. But how would the country have balanced its trade accounts? Passing on the oil price to consumers may have fueled inflation, but failure to do so would only have increased consumption.

Even the government's unflagging optimism could be defended on the grounds that a country seeking loans and investments abroad cannot afford to express doubts about its future.

There are undoubtedly some lessons to be learned from the experience of this government. It is not possible to do everything at the same time without creating serious problems regarding human, industrial and financial resources. Government attempts to plan the economy through investment incentives, loan subsidies and import controls can totally clog up economic development. Excessive centralization and bureaucracy create delays and breed inefficiency. Critics argue that only by opening up the Brazilian market to foreign exporters will domestic industry become internationally competitive.

—M.F.

—K.F.

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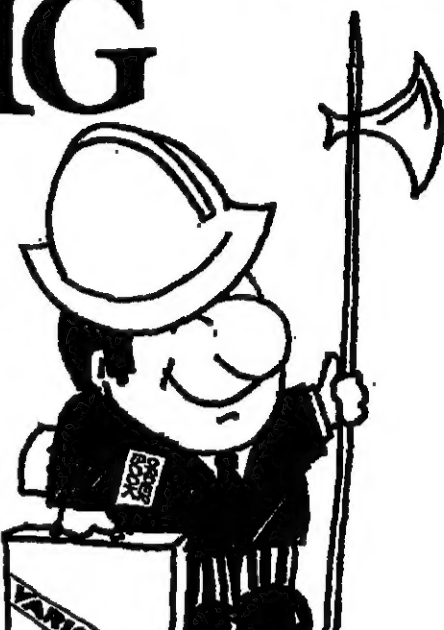


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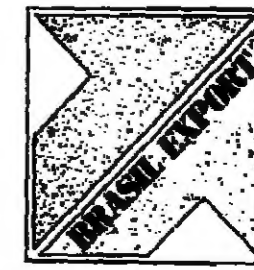
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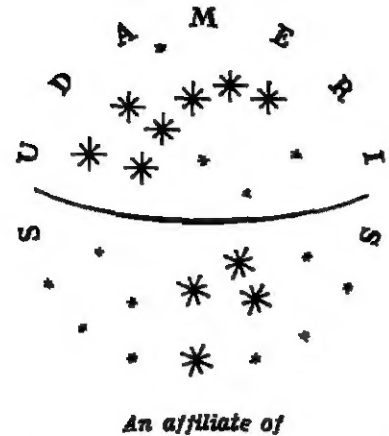
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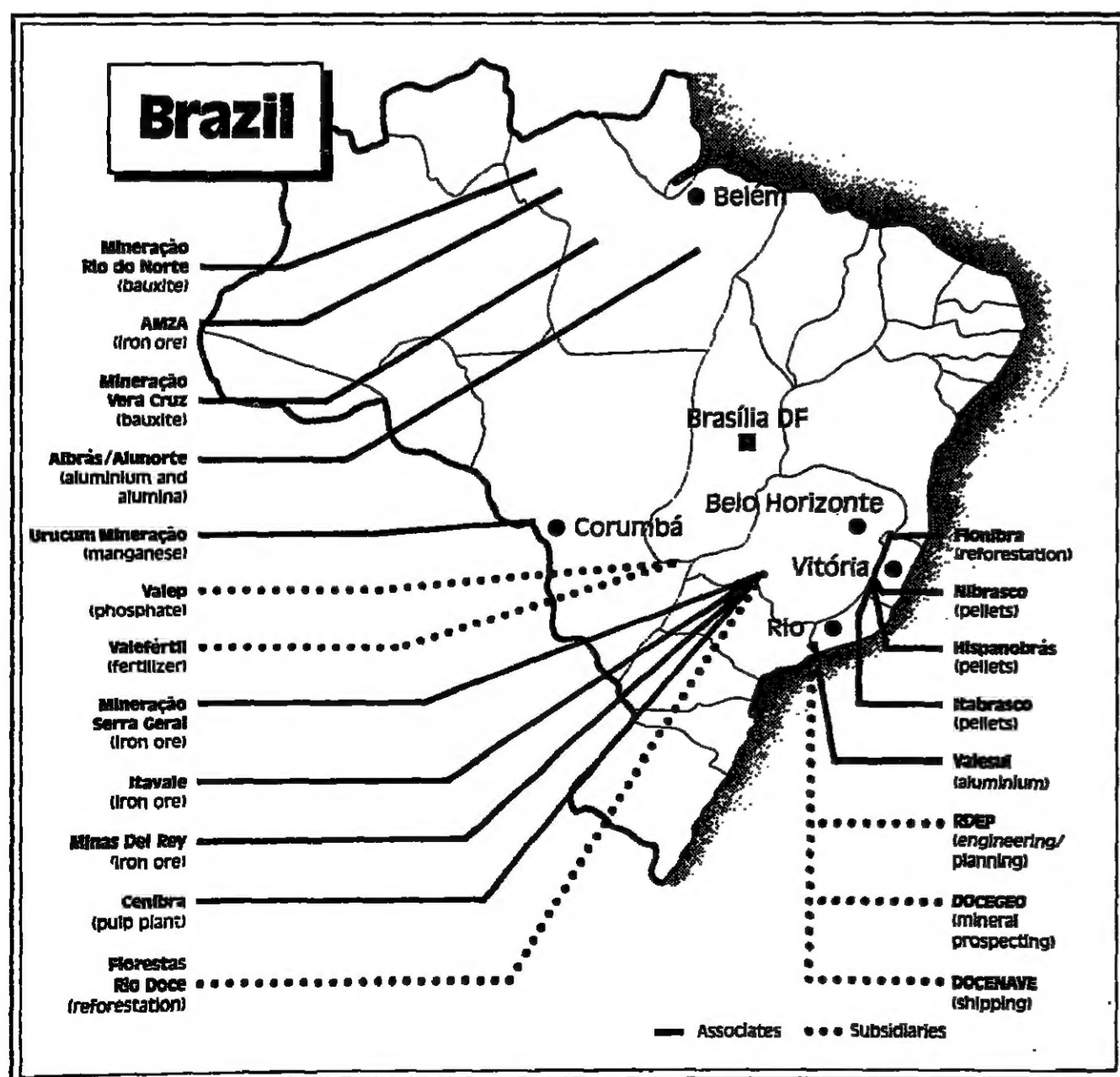
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Roads Are a Main Problem for Vast Country

Since the Transamazonica was built largely on the basis of an aerial survey, bridges and embankments are frequently washed away and the road blocked during the rainy season . . . Certainly, moving goods by water or even air would prove cheaper in Amazonia . . .

RIO DE JANEIRO (UHT)—The "West was won" in the United States by the laying of thousands of miles of railroads. In Brazil, isolated regions of the country have been linked by the bulldozer, the scraper and the trailblazing truck driver.

In 1964, there were only 12,000 kilometers of paved roads in the whole country. It was impossible to drive to the Northeast, where a third of the population lives, without traveling many miles by dirt road and making several ferry crossings. Today, there are 70,000 kilometers of asphalt roads and more than a million kilometers of all types of highway.

Brazil can be criticized for relying so overwhelmingly on road transport. Thirty per cent of all export revenue pays the oil import bill. The proportion of goods carried by truck is a record 75 per cent with more than 40 per cent of the oil used for road transport.

One of the most controversial aspects of the road program has been the opening of routes in Amazonia, which forms more than half of Brazil. When the government took power in 1964, only the dirt Belem-Brasilia road existed—2,000 kilometers of road, which could take up to two weeks to traverse in the rainy season. Now there are two other roads running south to north, both completed last year.

In all, 10,000 kilometers of road have been opened in Amazonia during the past few years, including the famous Transamazonica, running east to west.

Expensive

Building the Amazonian network cannot be justified on economic grounds alone. On some stretches, only four vehicles pass a day, and it is proving almost as expensive each year to maintain these roads as it was to build them.

In the early days, little attention was paid to drainage or the behavior of the rivers in flood periods. Since the Transamazonica was built largely on the basis of an aerial survey, bridges and embankments are frequently washed away and the road blocked during the rainy season. The non-asphalted roads can become quagmires for weeks on end between November and March.

The roads were not really built to carry heavy goods from point to point. Certainly, moving goods by water or even air would prove cheaper in Amazonia than taking the long haul by road.

'Steel Line'

Nor are roads the answer to the transport problems of a country aiming to be among the world's biggest steel producers and iron ore exporters and with millions of tons of agricultural produce to move hundreds, even thousands, of miles to the ports and cities. A 500-mile-long "Steel Line" railroad is to link the iron ore-producing regions of Minas Gerais with the steel works of Volta Redonda, with a branch running on to the industrial area of Sao Paulo. The line was announced in the first year of the Geisel government and was to

have been completed within 1,000 days at a cost of \$1 million.

One thousand days later work on the line was paralyzed. Instead of 80,000 men completing it, a few hundred are trying to save what has been built from the ravages of weather. Brazil's major construction firms, which imported millions of dollars of special tunneling and construction equipment, are faced with massive losses.

It is now forecast that the railroad will be ready by 1983 or 1984 at an eventual cost of \$4.5 billion, which was the original estimate for 70 railway projects in a national modernization program. Like the Transamazonica, the "Steel Line" project was

given the go-ahead on the basis of only preliminary surveys, and has experienced many revisions since.

Already very deep in debt, the country cannot afford to spend scarce foreign resources on the sophisticated equipment the "Steel Line" will require. Railroad projects are now confined to track upgrading and improvements to services in Parana state, where transport costs to the coast can add \$80 a ton to the cost of bulk products for export. Most goods are now carried hundreds of miles to the coast in small trucks.

Port congestion is another problem. Trucks can wait in

line for up to two weeks at the height of the harvest due to congestion and lack of storage space. The country boasts 50,000 kilometers of navigable waterways which could move a massive amount of goods. But so far very little is moved either by inland waterway or along the 7,000-kilometer coastline. It costs more than two cruzeiros to take one kilo by road from the manufacturing heart of Sao Paulo, to the Amazonian city of Manaus, and it takes a truck 15 to 20 days to make the round trip. It costs less than 50 centavos to take the same kilo by water.

With a few exceptions, the ports have been neglected. They are still subject to control by big different government agencies and bureaucratic delays and the inefficient use of equipment has led most carriers to use the sea services, even when they are sometimes more expensive.

Some new ports have been built and new equipment is stalled, but they are geared to the export trade rather than to internal distribution, and are tended to help curb the massive oil import bill. An example is Santarem, where modern installations, including two powerful imported cranes capable of shifting 200,000 tons of goods a year, have been installed. Last year the moved a total of 240 tons. High massive cranes at the port of Itaquí, Maranhão, serve only a few ships a week.

If the situation in the port is chaotic, the situation on the inland waterways is little better. However, there are signs of progress on the system which runs from Sao Paulo to the Rio Parana and south to the Plata. The 1,500-kilometer Tiete-Parana system. These rivers are gradually being harnessed for hydroelectric power and locks are being built into each dam. By the middle of the next decade a system should be fully operational. Large craft will be able to travel from Sao Paulo to Buenos Aires, collecting agricultural produce from an area of 400,000 square kilometers, a districting oil and other products to the 60,000 people who live on the river banks.

Airlines

By contrast, Brazil's airlines have had things pretty easy many years. A 20-per-cent annual growth rate has been the rule for the huge domestic airline of fast jet service, Varig, the only option for the business traveler. Seventy per cent of Brazilian passengers using one of four national airlines and five smaller feeder services in this category. There are 11 airports in Brazil, with 70 cities served by jets.

In 1960, almost 500 towns were served by piston-driven aircraft which did not require the sophisticated ground equipment—long runways as do the jets—used by the national airline. Last year, the five regional taxi operators formed the F-Global Air Transport System. They now serve 139 cities a year on a regular basis, and plan to increase this to 400 within five years, using exclusively Brazilian-made aircraft.

The tight foreign-exchange situation is beginning to cause difficulties for the four national airlines, each of which carries roughly the same amount of international traffic, with Varig being the overseas carrier. They would like to purchase wide-bodied jets—some of the more heavily used routes, such as the shuttle service between Rio and Sao Paulo, and from these cities to Brazil and Belo Horizonte. But funds are now available for the purchase of new aircraft and existing planes are being used to capacity. The inauguration of a year of internal inclusive with a reduction of 40 per cent on the normal fare, is also increasing demand on some routes.

—P.K.

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'Pragmatic' Foreign Policy Open to Question

BRASILIA (AP)—When President Jimmy Carter goes to Brazil next month, he is likely to find a very different reception from the near-royal treatment given to Henry Kissinger in January 1976.

Brazil's relations with Washington, the main axis of its foreign policy, have deteriorated since the start of the Carter administration in January.

The Brazilian government was prepared for the seriousness of President Carter's anti-proliferation and human rights platforms and took an anti-American stance from which it will be hard to withdraw.

A critical point was reached in March when Brazil snapped a pact it considered American meddling and refused further U.S. aid and cut off military cooperation with the northern navy. The United States remains Brazil's biggest trading partner and creditor, and the two countries share too many strategic interests in the Atlantic to let a total falling out.

Other Issues

But there are still other issues outstanding. Most important is the confrontation over Brazil's energy deal with West Germany, signed in 1975. The United States is firmly set against the inclusion of "sensitive" technology for enriching uranium and reprocessing spent nuclear fuel—the two processes which can be used to develop nuclear explosives—despite safeguards written into the agreement.

After a brief and acid meeting earlier in the year, the Brazilians

Brazilian 'Third World' aspirations have met with suspicion from other countries, and there is little to show for its new African policy other than some trade agreements with Nigeria. Relations with the Soviet Union have not warmed and those with China exist in name only.

and Americans have not resumed talks.

The human rights issue has aroused bad feeling among the Brazilian military, who insist that only Brazilians should concern themselves with the rights of their own citizens. President Ernesto Geisel had full backing from the army when he refused military aid from the United States on the grounds of a State Department report dealing with Brazil's domestic policies.

The reception given to Rosalynn Carter during her Latin American tour was merely polite. It threatened to be less than that when she accepted protest notes from students and prisoners and after she talked with two American missionaries in Recife who had been roughly treated by police there.

U.S. Interference

Despite some improvements made under Gen. Geisel's leadership on the human rights question, the issue remains a sore point and has not been helped by U.S. interference.

Brazil has in fact been moving further away from the United States for some time. Considered after the 1964 military coup to be America's "pro-consul" in Latin America, it has gradually adopted more independent positions—cubed "responsible pragmatism" by Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira. New trade arrangements and barriers put some of Brazil's economic interests in line with those of other Third World countries.

Military dependence declined and credits were left unused—the \$50 million U.S. military aid agreement which Brazil refused in March was a drop in the bucket considering the country's defense budget of about \$2 billion.

Brazil normalized its relations with the Soviet Union and even with the Chinese. It withdrew its backing of Israel. It no longer took a neutral attitude towards South Africa and sought friends in black Africa, unexpectedly recognizing the MPLA regime in Angola. It ditched the United States as a nuclear partner and formed an unprecedented pact with the West Germans. And the country cemented stronger commercial relations with Europe.

However, this "pragmatic" policy has so far not succeeded.

Brazilian "Third World" aspirations have met with suspicion from other countries, and there is little to show for its new African policy other than some trade agreements with Nigeria.

Relations with the Soviet Union have not warmed and those with China exist in name only.

At the same time, the political gap between Brazil and much of Latin America has widened now that Spain and Portugal have democratic governments.

Within Latin America, where Brazil's military-cum-technocratic example has been closely watched, Brazilian influence is a source of resentment. Several of Brazil's neighbors, particularly the civilian presidents of Colombia and Venezuela, took exception to Dr. Kissinger's description of Brazil as an "emerging world power" and his statement

of its "rightful shared role in international leadership."

Brazil and Argentina are renewing old rivalries with a thundering argument over who will benefit most from the power potential of the Parana River, which they share with Paraguay.

Argentina and Paraguay plan to build a dam downstream from one which Brazil and Paraguay are already building. About \$1 billion has already gone into the Brazilian Itaipu project, which, with planned output of 12.8 million kilowatts and a total investment, including interest, of \$7 billion, is the world's biggest and costliest.

The Argentinian Corpus project, if built on the scale planned by them, threatens to raise water levels, reducing the power of Itaipu and flooding areas in Paraguay and Brazil.

The argument came to a head in July with an exchange of angry notes between the two foreign ministries. Tripartite talks are now planned, but a solution by the end of the year—when Brazil wants to order the installation of 18 huge turbines—is far from certain.

Economic Influence

Gen. Geisel's growing friendship with Bolivia's Gen. Hugo Banzer Suarez has raised suspicion that Brazil wants to use Bolivia as a pawn in regional politics with the establishment of economic influence in that country as it has in Paraguay. Brazil's influence is also seen behind Bolivia's claim for an outlet to the Pacific, cutting through Peru and Chile.

Brazilian diplomats refute accusations of local imperialism, although the government would certainly not be adverse to having effective access to the Pacific via a friendly neighbor.

Although Brazil's superior economic power is exerting growing influence on its neighboring countries, Brazil's rush for frontier land is encroaching on their neighbors' borders.

An "invasion" of Brazilian farmers has been denounced in Argentina and Bolivia, and the Bolivians have set up farming colonies on their eastern border.

The rumors and fears of Brazilian territorial ambitions undoubtedly contain a large dose of paranoia, but they also underline the lack of integration of Brazil and the rest of the continent.

Brazil wants to use its influence to the best advantage, but so far the country has shown no interest in forming or participating in any kind of Latin American bloc. Certainly its potential role as an accepted leader in the region and in the Third World has not yet been fully realized.

—M.P.

Debate on Country's Future

(Continued from Page 1.) Early demonstrated his determination to push through the social, economic and political objectives he set himself when he entered office.

Gen. Geisel has already made strides in humanizing the rule. The workers may have been behind in the inflationary war, congressional deputies may still find themselves banned from political participation, students and professors can be excluded from universities and habeas corpus is still not respected. But a number of political prisoners have been released, the use of torture has become less common, greater personal freedom is being exercised, the government has substantially improved social security cover and a brief attempt is made to raise the minimum wage.

Difficult Period

On the economic front, the government is going through a difficult period as the middle class begins to feel the disadvantages of the anti-inflation measures without yet appreciating their benefits. Higher taxes, employment opportunities and a tightening up of installment terms hurt when real wages are falling under an annual inflation of 40 per cent.

However, with the recent improvement in foreign trade and a slowing down of inflation, the country may be in better shape than Gen. Geisel steps in.

The big question is what the government is planning on the constitutional front. There was time when the liberals hoped that the President might actually send the military back to the barracks and restore the pre-1964 civilian regime. But nothing is thought being given to the abolition of the present two-party system in favor of a multi-party one which would enable moderates within the two parties to form a new coalition.

It is too early to judge how far Gen. Geisel is prepared to go. He may have gained the upper hand over the hardliners, but he cannot afford to ignore their feelings. If Col. de Figueiredo is chosen as the next president, he, too, will find it difficult to pacify the hardliners within the army and meet the demands of his business supporters without falling down on the social and political objectives set by Gen. Geisel.

The liberals should expect no revolutions in Brazilian political life, but there is still a chance that the free discussion introduced by Gen. Geisel will eventually result in a move towards more democratic institutions.

Dozens of names have been put forward as possible candidates—including a senator who wants to become the first civilian president under a new constitution—but the front runners were until recently Gen. Frota, as a representative of the anti-Communist hardliners within the army, and Col. Jean-Baptiste de Figueiredo, the head of the Brazilian intelligence agency SNI, who has the backing of the Sao Paulo business community as well as some of the President's entourage.

At first sight Gen. Frota's dismissal seems to leave the way clear for Col. de Figueiredo's candidature. For some months now the colonel has been putting together a ministerial team under former economics minister Antonio Delfim Netto. Many people believe Col. de Figueiredo has the right blend of authority and liberalism to insure the implementation of Gen. Geisel's ideas. But when the President effectively nominates his successor next spring, he may well come up with another name. With Gen. Frota's attacks on Col. de Figueiredo, the President may propose a less controversial figure, or one even closer to his way of thinking.

The choice of a new president will certainly influence the nature of the constitutional changes which Gen. Geisel has promised to put before Congress. It may also affect the holding of parliamentary elections in the autumn of next year. Because of changes in the election rules introduced earlier this year, the government party ARENA (National Alliance for Renewal) is virtually assured of winning the majority in the Senate as well as all of the governorships, but the opposition Brazilian Democratic Movement, MDB, could well win control over the lower house.

This explains the very serious thought being given to the abolition of the present two-party system in favor of a multi-party one which would enable moderates within the two parties to form a new coalition.

It is too early to judge how far Gen. Geisel is prepared to go. He may have gained the upper hand over the hardliners, but he cannot afford to ignore their feelings. If Col. de Figueiredo is chosen as the next president, he, too, will find it difficult to pacify the hardliners within the army and meet the demands of his business supporters without falling down on the social and political objectives set by Gen. Geisel.

The liberals should expect no revolutions in Brazilian political life, but there is still a chance that the free discussion introduced by Gen. Geisel will eventually result in a move towards more democratic institutions.

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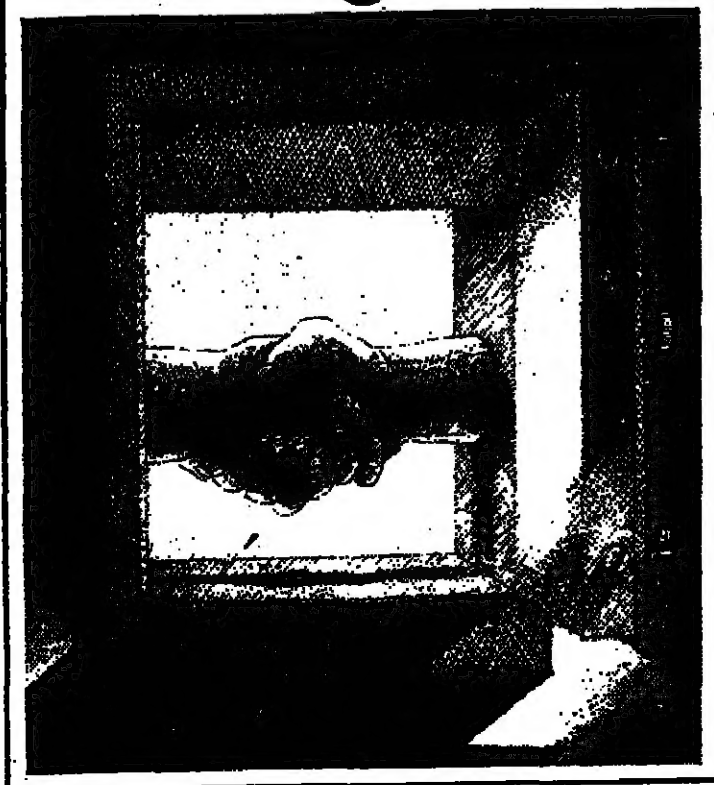
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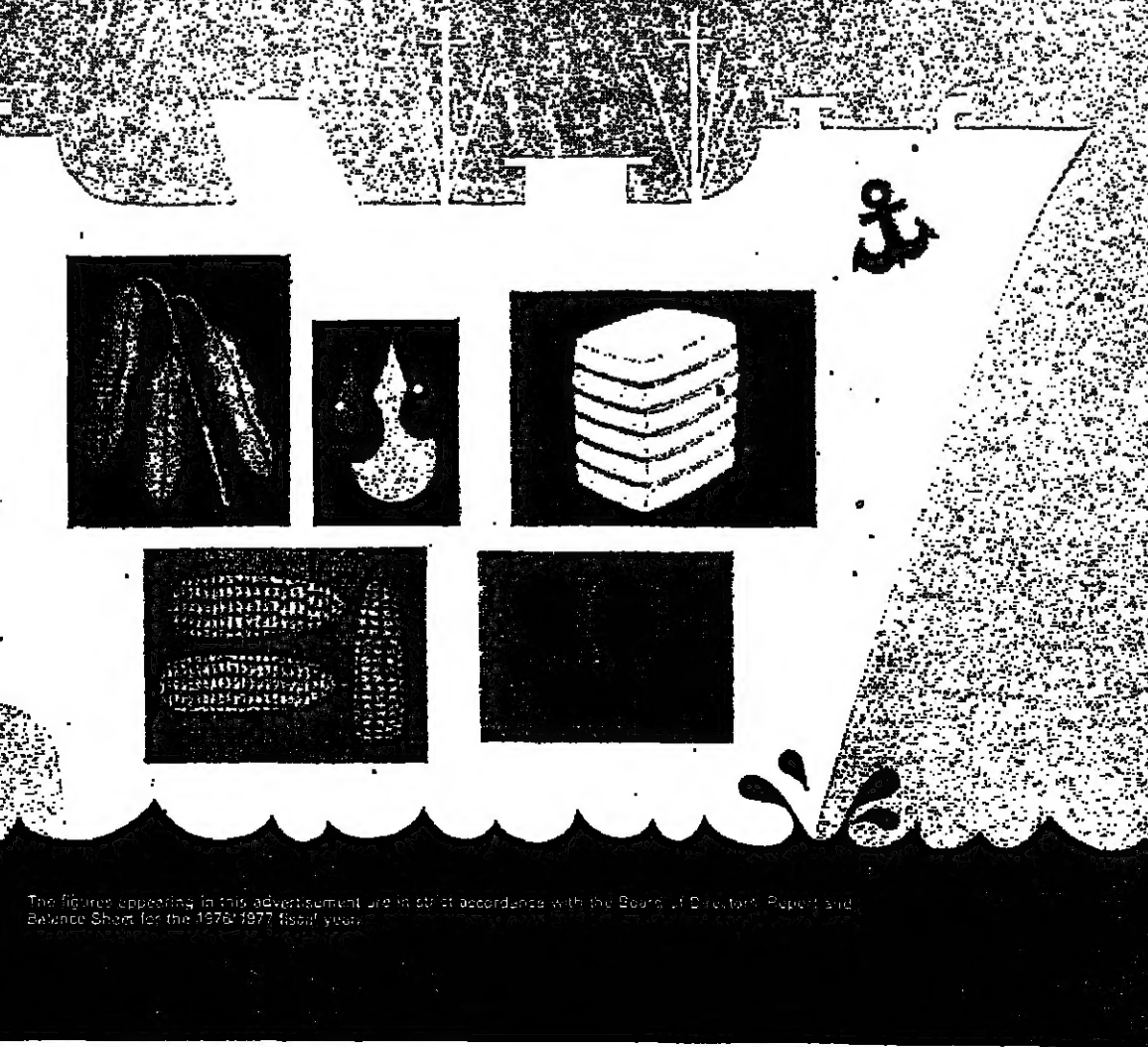
US\$ 250 million or 2.9% of Brazil's total exports. This is the amount of goods exported by SANBRA last year. Confirmation of the Company's position as the leading Brazilian private sector export company. In a few examples, SANBRA is responsible for 30% of the country's exports of cotton, 31.7% of exports of sugar, 25% of exports of coffee.

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Major Industries Gearing Up to Meet Exports, Domestic Needs

Agriculture

SAO PAULO (IPT).—"Boom" seems to be the word for Brazil's agricultural exports, which, with a receipt of \$4.1 billion, had wiped out the country's four-year-old trade deficit by June this year. The agricultural sector as a whole, however, is burdened with problems, and calls for changes in the sector have become more vocal in recent months.

Put into perspective, the boom is based on an increase in prices—the average price per metric ton for agricultural exports in the first semester of this year was \$669.4, as compared with \$429.1 for the whole of 1976. Volume of exports, which grew from 11.5 million tons in 1974 to 13.8 million in 1976, is virtually certain to fall this year. By June it had reached only 6.1 million tons.

Though soaring world prices are good for export earnings, they also boost domestic inflation. The shop price of coffee has gone up over four times in the two years since the frost, while chocolate has also risen along with the world price of cocoa.

Perhaps more important are the inflationary tendencies built into the agricultural policy itself. Food prices last year rose by 76 per cent compared with an overall inflation rate of 46.3 per cent. This

is closely connected with the ever-growing sums that the government dishes out annually in the form of loans to the farming sector. Since 1969, loans have risen at an annual rate of 110 per cent to reach \$12.1 billion last year. Meanwhile output has been growing at the more modest rate of 5 per cent a year.

In fact, according to Carlos Rischbieter, president of the Banco do Brasil, the value of gross farm product per unit invested has fallen from 11:1 in 1960 to 2:1 in 1976. In announcing that his bank was undertaking a critical review of present rural credit policies, Mr. Rischbieter acknowledged that subsidized loans at below-market interest rates tend to find their way into more profitable activities than farming. Two areas known to be favored by farmers are property speculation and the money market, themselves highly inflationary.

An earlier call for changes in agricultural policy had come from Paulo Vianna, head of the government's Production Financing Commission, which supervises the minimum price policy under which the government guarantees to buy up crops in the event of a price slump.

"Whatever path is taken with minimum prices will lead to

inflation," Mr. Vianna stated. "If minimum prices aren't stimulating enough, we shall have recession. We shall export less and perhaps have to import more agricultural products. But if minimum prices are stimulating, we shall have inflation through the increased demand for loans."

In any event, the government raised minimum prices this year by an average 23.5 per cent, much less than the inflation rate. This caused a furor among farmers, who were already angered by credit cuts for purchases of tractors and farm machinery. If the government does eventually revise its agricultural policy, its relations with the farming sector are likely to deteriorate even further.

—BY NICK TERDRE

Autos

SAO PAULO (IPT).—It has been a lean year for Brazil's motor industry, the leanest since production started to soar in the 1960s to hit an annual rate of 17.7 per cent in 1974. Last year output rose by a modest 5.9 per cent, but this year it has dropped by 7.9 per cent.

The worst hit sector has been cars, which account for over 80 per cent of total output. In the

first seven months of this year production fell by 43,500 vehicles, a drop of 9 per cent. Volkswagen has suffered the most with operation in Brazil restricted to cars and the mini-bus. Car production lines have also been slowed and overall output cut by 20 per cent at the big three American companies—Ford, General Motors and Chrysler.

The most satisfied car manufacturer is newcomer Fiat, now turning out over 6,000 vehicles a month and with a 6.1-per-cent share of the market. However, a layoff at Fiat for 10 days in September to allow stocks to run down suggests that a production plateau may now have been reached.

The motor boom in Brazil has certainly come to an end, if only for the time being. The majority of Brazilians do not have much money, and sales in the past had to be bolstered through generous installment buying terms. The onset of the present economic crisis has obliged the government to tighten up, withdrawing incentives for car production and reducing the maximum installment period from 36 to 24 months. This, together with the high cost of gasoline (now about \$0.42 a liter) and the population's generally deteriorating financial situation, seems to have

set the seal on falling car sales.

The greater emphasis now given to trucks and buses—with output rising by 33 per cent and 15.7 per cent respectively—has benefited both industry and public transport.

The foreign market does not look quite as promising as it has in recent times. Although manufacturers have assumed commitments under the Belfex program to export \$1.2 billion in vehicles over a ten-year period, it is not likely that last year's total earnings of \$450 million will be overtaken this year—up to June, exports were worth around \$215 million.

One bright spot could be the development of motors running on 100-per-cent alcohol fuel, providing an enormous potential saving for Brazil's gas consumption. Both Chrysler and VW have developed alcohol motors which could be produced on a mass scale.

—N. T.

Textiles

SAO PAULO (IPT).—After a meteoric rise of exports in textiles and footwear which centered on U.S. and European markets, Brazilian goods are now facing increasing obstacles. Other low-cost producers are

fiercely competing for the same markets while developed countries are erecting trade barriers in fear for their local industries.

Clothing and shoes are more expensive at home than they are abroad. With low domestic purchasing power, textile companies are pressing for a change in economic policy to reactivate the home market.

More than \$700 million was invested in textile machinery between 1973-76 in an industry that employs 450,000 in 7,000 firms. The installation of machinery, a low-cost labor force and abundant raw materials, however, are not enough to prevent stagnating exports and low domestic demand. Some factories are working 30 per cent below capacity. Many are in debt; beyond 50 per cent of total asset value, with interest rates running between 50-60 per cent a year.

The textile and shoe industries have spearheaded Brazil's drive over the last few years to increase exports of manufactured goods. Textile exports rose from \$17 million in 1966 to peak at \$445 million in 1976. Sales in 1976 amounted to \$250 million, and last year fractionally less than \$400 million. Cotton cloth, finished goods and thread worth \$450 million will probably be sold this year, however. Sales for the first five months passed the \$200-million mark. Nonetheless, world competition has likely made unattainable Brazil's goal of \$1 billion by 1980.

Brazil also produces 30,000 tons of wool, mostly for export, and 90,000 tons of jute. Jute is mainly used to manufacture coffee sacks, but the low coffee production of the last few years has hit jute producers hard.

Synthetic fibers are also undergoing hard times. Although 300,000 tons of fibers were produced last year—37 per cent up from 1975—high prices have brought on a large build-up in stock.

In shoes, only 130,000 pairs were exported in 1966, as against 37 million pairs last year, with 80 per cent destined for the United States. But with U.S. shoe imports at 51 per cent of the market at the beginning of this year and their shoe factories closing down, the United States has imposed a global quota of 265 million pairs. Brazil's share is 21 million pairs.

Brazil earned \$175 million from shoe exports last year and is targeting in on the \$800-million dollar market earned by Spain and Italy, the world's major exporters. With Brazil's low wages and abundant raw materials—11 million hides produced last year, with exports usually running between 15-20 per cent—the country can produce products more cheaply. However, Taiwan, South Korea and Hong Kong have even lower wage scales and are competing heavily for the U.S. market.

With the EEC and the United States, which until now have been Brazil's major markets, increasingly taking preventive measures to protect their own industries—in the last five years 1,500 textile factories in Europe and 250 shoe factories in the United States have closed—Brazil has turned with some success to new markets in Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Each of these regions sells substantially to Brazil, mainly oil and minerals, and Brazil is anxious to increase its exchange of manufactured goods.

—P. K.

Forestry

SAO PAULO (IPT).—Brazil will be a major pulp supplier to Europe one day but it is going to have to sweat to break into the market.

The country has the advantage of low-cost wood because trees grow so fast in its tropical and sub-tropical climates, but right now the world market is overflowing with pulp and papermakers are reluctant to switch to a new supplier with a new product.

In 1975 Brazil embarked on an ambitious program to develop its pulp and paper industry. Plans, based on technology imported through joint ventures with some of the world's major pulp and paper companies, are aimed at self-sufficiency in paper and two million metric tons of pulp exports per year by 1980. Brazil was to become a net pulp exporter this year.

The plans have taken effect remarkably well and Brazil now has large export capacity. However, it produces mostly short-fiber eucalyptus pulp which has different characteristics from the long-fiber pine pulp most common in Europe, where Brazil expects to develop her major market.

"Short-fiber pulp is different but not inferior. For some uses it is better than long-fiber pulp," explains Fernando A.S. Camargo, executive director of Klabin do Parana, Brazil's largest integrated pulp and paper producer.

Eucalyptus pulp bleaches whiter and makes more opaque paper than long-fiber pulp, which produces a stronger paper. Eucalyptus pulp makes fine writing paper and is satisfactory when strength is not important, but pine pulp makes better newspaper, for instance, because greater strength

allows printing presses to run faster.

Changes will be forced on European papermakers by their traditional pulp suppliers, the Scandinavians, who are integrating their mills. They plan to sell paper, not pulp, and the papermakers are going to have to look for new suppliers. This will give Brazil the chance it needs.

In the meantime, however, Brazil's pulp producers are hurting badly. Exports of 195,000 metric tons were expected this year, up 39 per cent over 1976, but while production during the first half rose by 12 per cent to 615,153 metric tons, exports actually fell about 40 per cent. Stocks are piling up and idle capacity is growing. The industry is facing up to some tough years.

—K. F.

Industry

SAO PAULO (IPT).—After 50 years of extraordinary expansion yielding an average annual growth rate of 6 per cent, Brazil is now the eighth largest economy in the Western world, with a gross national product of \$120 billion. This achievement has led some observers to ask: Should Brazil still be classified as a Third World nation? Has it not qualified as a member of that select club of developed nations?

The answer still is no. For the problems faced by Brazil are still typical of the developing world. First of all, at least a fifth of the nation—or 20 million people—are still outside the consumer society. They lack education, food, housing, information—in fact, almost everything associated with the modern world.

Second, the country is still heavily dependent on the developed nations. Brazil has made enormous strides in the manufacture of durable and non-durable consumer goods. The country now annually produces 1 million new vehicles, 3 million radios, 1.2 million refrigerators, 500 million bars of soap, 100 billion cigarettes, and so on. But Brazil still depends heavily on imported equipment and machinery to produce these goods.

At present, Brazil is making great efforts to speed up the local manufacture of capital goods and thus carry out what is called "the second phase of import substitution." Gains are gradually being made in this field. According to Angelo Calmon de Sa, Minister of Industry and Trade, "Brazilian manufacturers now provide 65 per cent of the equipment for projects approved by the Industrial Development Council. This is much better than three years ago, when the proportion was just 51 per cent."

However, Brazil's import bill for machinery and equipment is still heavy: an estimated \$3 billion this year, as compared with \$3.6 billion in 1976 and \$3.9 billion in 1975.

One of the problems is the conflicting nature of the government's objectives. With the traditional lack of sufficient investment capital and the high level of the foreign debt now standing at \$30 billion, Brazil urgently needs foreign financing. However, foreign banks frequently demand that a part of the loan come in the form of suppliers' credit, that is, loans tied to the importing of goods from the country providing the loan. This greatly annoys Brazilian manufacturers when they are in a position to produce the goods inside the country.

—N. T.

Mining

RIO DE JANEIRO (IPT).—Brazilian exports of iron ore and manganese together brought in more than \$1 billion of badly needed foreign exchange last year, 10.5 per cent of the country's export effort. But during the same period the country was forced to buy \$610 million worth of pig iron and steel from abroad, \$414 million worth of nonferrous metals, notably copper and aluminum, and \$302 million worth of fertilizers.

With its huge land surface, Brazil has undoubted potential as a mining power, but for the moment that potential remains unexploited.

However, with the country's growing appetite for minerals posing an increasing strain on the balance of payments, the government is at last giving the mining sector the attention it deserves. It is being supported by some 50 or 60 foreign companies which until recently preferred other operating areas but which are now beginning to appreciate the advantages of a strong domestic market and a stable political climate.

Thanks to projects under consideration, Brazil could become one of the world's leading producers and exporters of iron ore, bauxite and manganese, reduce its dependence on nonferrous imports and become self-sufficient in fertilizers, steel and aluminum. By the early 1980s mining could be making a healthy contribution to the country's balance of payments. The targets of the Second National Plan are impressive. Iron ore production was to reach 138 million tons in 1979 from 60 mil-

lion in 1974 with exports increasing to 98 million from 44 million tons to reach 223 million tons from 8.5 million, aluminum output to 100,000 from 10,000, copper to 60,000 from 10,000, 55,000 from 33,000 and 115,000 from 12 million tons.

But since these expansion plans were drawn up in the aftermath of the oil crisis, the situation has changed. World mineral prices have fallen back. National demand for steel, aluminum, nonferrous metals has grown faster than expected. Foreign companies have had second thoughts about the wisdom of placing substantial sums of money into mining operations which are generally under Brazilian state control. Even the Brazilian government, which for several years has been spending its way out of the economic crisis, has at last had to admit that the resources of the country and the patience of international bankers have their limits.

In the first two years of the 1970s, the country is ready well on the way to meet the objectives set for fertilizers and aluminum. But as delays are occurring in the sectors of the country's Amazonian bauxite project Trombetas is going ahead, Paragominas remains under the government's trying to wage its huge Carajas iron project following the withdrawal of U.S. Steel. Brazil's new ambitions may take a little longer to realize than was once hoped, but a serious start has been made.

—M.

Tourism

RIO DE JANEIRO (IPT).—Though Brazil comes to mind when thinking of an exotic vacation, this country is not yet the tourist map. Since it is expensive and is so far from the United States, it is a bit of a hassle to get to.

Ten years ago, tourism was to be an easy way to make money. However, although a few fortunes were made, a great deal of money was lost in vain attempts to make it work.

Today Brazil is at the end of the market. It will long time before the country comes within the range of a mass package tour.

Expansion is limited by the number of hotel rooms—only 100,000 in 1976, compared with Italy's 1,330, and 1.2 million in the United States. Even if double what was available years ago.

Embratur, the government's tourism agency, has set out to Brazil a tourist center, but not knowing quite how about it. A total of 85 new hotels have been built, but many of them are in or near Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo.

Besides being clustered to the hotels cater to the same number of luxury tourists. Hotel companies have amassed a lot of money, but the industry is now in a critical situation at least 30 of the new hotels reported to be on the brink of bankruptcy. Most have occupancy rates of around 50 per cent below the break-even point.

The airlines flying from Brazil to the United States enjoy of the highest per-mile fare in the world. Since they are at fairly high capacity with passengers paying full fare, are not eager to help hotels by encouraging cut-price charter business which erode their healthy profits.

In 1975, 340,000 Brazilian tourists spent \$450 million in the United States. On the other hand, the 4 tourists who visited Brazil in 1975 spent only \$110 million. Brazil's substantial balance payments problems. Some had to be done.

It was decided that every citizen who could not prove was leaving the country for more than 15 days had to deposit an equivalent of \$1,000 for one month, which means that cash has been devalued by at least 10 per cent when it is returned.

This measure has cut numbers by only 7 per cent. Number claiming some sort of exemption has been growing, for as the government tightens up on one category another is found. Travelers some Latin American countries are exempt from the scheme the moment for fear that entry measures would be taken.

Many Brazilians travel to Buenos Aires to take advantage of cheaper prices there. A goes that poor Brazilian to go to Argentina, the miles to Europe or the United States, but only the very few can afford a vacation in Brazil. There is something in this. And, in a 1975 survey, it was found that only 20 per cent of Brazil's 110 million population are potential tourists.

—P.

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